

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar

Introduction - Six Famous Ganesh Temples (Combined)



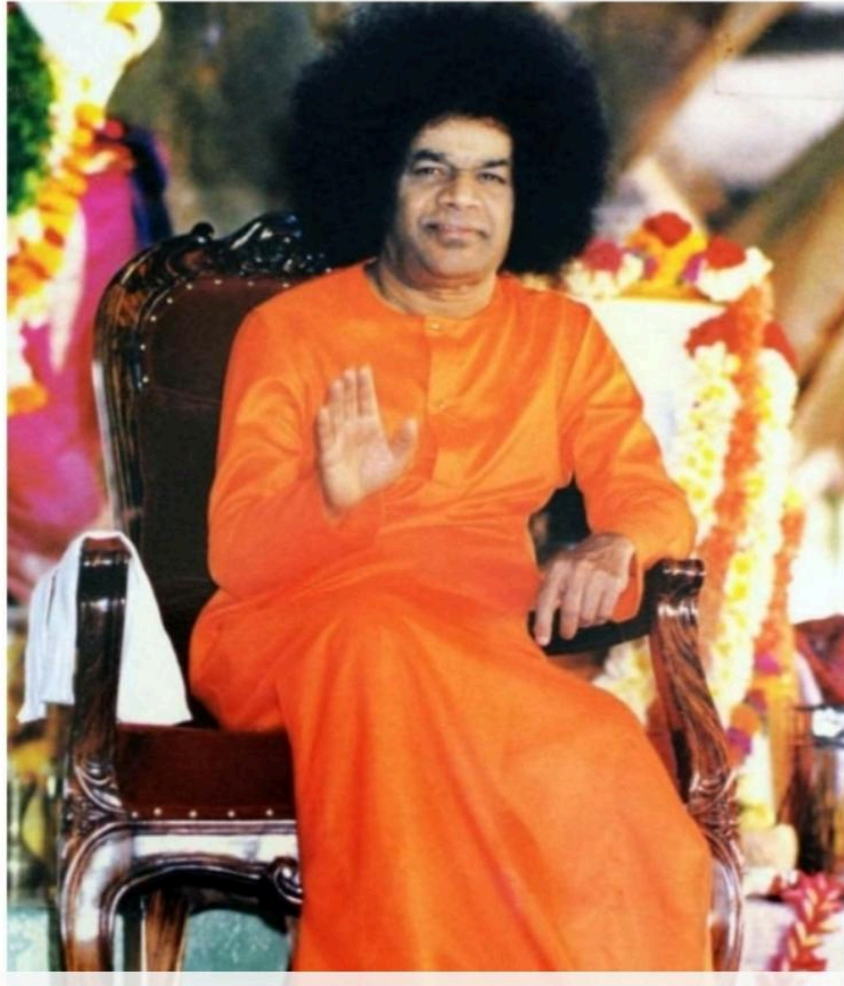
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DEDICATION

**This work is lovingly dedicated at the lotus feet of:
Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba**



**There is only ONE caste -The Caste of Humanity
There is only ONE religion –The Religion of Love
There is only ONE language –The Language of the Heart
There is only ONE God –He is Omnipresent**

.....Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba

PREFACE

This compilation is about **"Six Famous Ganesh Temples (Combined)"**

In this free ebook, following six free ebooks, which were circulated earlier, are combined into a single free ebook for easy reference.

1. “ Kottarakkara Sri Mahaganapathy Temple, Kollam, Kerala ”
2. “Sri Adhi Vinayagar Temple, Koothanur, Tamil Nadu ”
3. “ Sri Bada Ganesh Ji Mandir, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh ”
4. “Shreemant Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple, Pune, Maharashtra ”
5. “ Ucchi Pillayar Temple, Rockfort, Trichy, Tamil Nadu ”
6. “ Sri Chintamani Ganesh Temple, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh “

YouTube videos in each ebook: Here we have a good info on these Temples by well-known artistes, Scholars and Pandits.

Acknowledgements:

Many of my friends and relatives have actively encouraged me in my attempt to compile this free ebook. I sincerely thank them for their support.

My wife Kala has always encouraged and supported me in all my literary works, sacrificing much of her time. I express my deep appreciation to her.

I have drawn heavily from many references, YouTube and other websites as mentioned in the text.

Finally, I express my immense gratitude to Sri Sathya Sai Baba for His Grace and blessings, prompting me to initiate, continue and complete this work.

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar,
May 23, 2025
Email: tmuliya@rediffmail.com

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1. “ Kottarakkara Sri Mahaganapathy Temple, Kollam, Kerala ”
2. “Sri Adhi Vinayagar Temple, Koothanur, Tamil Nadu ”
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Pressing on the desired name takes you to that particular ebook, which has its own CONTENTS page with hyperlinks etc.

In each ebook, do see the links under "YouTube Videos" which will give you good info on these Temples by well known artistes, Scholars and Pandits.

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar



Kottarakara Sri Mahaganapathi Temple, Kollam, Kerala



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PREFACE



On this **auspicious day of Ganesh chaturthi**, happy to present this free ebook, which is a compilation of information on **Kottarakara Sri Mahaganapathi Temple, Kollam, Kerala**.

Details about the temple history, legends, significance, origin, main deity & other deities, Thantikal, background and genesis, Kottarakara Unniyappam, Gaja Muthuchan, various festivals, sevas list with charges, Temple timings and address, how to reach, where to stay, where to eat, similar places, nearby places, address and contact info, etc are given from page 7 to 30.

Good photos of the temple, festivals and celebrations, grand processions etc are given from page 31 to 84.

FB Videos links are given on page 85.

And, YouTube videos links are shown on page 87 .Ganesh stotras and shlokas recited by famous artists like M S Subbulakshmi, S P Balasubramanyam, Shankar Mahadevan, Challikere brothers, Yesudas etc are given on page 88.

These videos are about Temple, history, legends, main deity & sub-deities, various poojas, festivals and celebrations including elephant procession etc.

Acknowledgements:

Many of my friends and relatives have actively encouraged me in my attempt to compile this free ebook. I sincerely thank them for their support.

My wife Kala has always encouraged and supported me in all my literary works, sacrificing much of her time. I express my deep appreciation to her.

I have drawn heavily from many references, viz. Wikipedia, the official website of temple, other internet pages, newspaper reports and YouTube videos etc.

Finally, I express my immense gratitude to Sri Sathya Sai Baba for His Grace and blessings, prompting me to initiate, continue and complete this work.

M.Thirumaleshwar,

August 31, 2022

Email: tmuliya@rediffmail.com

Ref: Wikipedia

Kottarakkara Sree Mahaganapathi Kshethram



Kottarakkara Sree Mahaganapathy Kshethram is a pilgrim centre in [South India](#).^[1] It is centuries old and the most important Maha Ganapathi Temple in Kerala. Non-Hindus are permitted. It is the family of Lord Siva. This [Ganapati](#) temple is located in [Kottarakkara](#) which is 25 km from [Kollam](#).

Temple

The [deities](#) of Kottarakkara Sree Mahaganapathy Kshethram are [Lord Shiva](#), [Goddess Parvati](#), [Lord Ganesha](#), [Lord Murugan](#), [Lord Ayyappan](#), and [Nagaraja](#). Even though the main deity is [Lord Shiva](#), the main priority is given to his son [Lord Ganesha](#). All deities except Goddess Parvati and Lord Ganesha face east. The main offerings of the temple are [Unniyappam](#) Udayasthamanapooja, Mahaganapathi homam and [Pushpanjali](#). The Unniyappam made here is very famous.

Pooja Schedule:

Morning

- 4:00 Palliyunathal
- 4:30 Nadathurakkal
- 4.40 Nirmalyam
- 4:50 Abhishekam
- 5.30 Ashtadravya Ganapathyhomam
- 6.00 Usha: Pooja
- 7.00 Ethritheu Pooja
- 7.15 Sreebali

- 9.00 Pantheeradi Pooja
- 10:00 Navaka Pooja
- 10.30 Ucha Pooja
- 11:00 Uchasreebali
- 11:30 Nadayadappu

Evening

- 5:00 Nadathurappu
- 6:30 Deeparadhana
- 7:30 Athazhappoja
- 7:45 Athazha Sreebali
- 8:00 Nadayadappu.

Sri Ganapathy

Ganapathy is the leader of the Ganas, i.e., the leader of groups, tribes, race, army, escorts, and hence Lord Shiva's son is described as the supreme leader (Vinayaka). He is also known as Vigneswara — Lord of all obstacles. These names clearly show that He is a master of all Circumstances.

Ganapathy is represented as yellow skinned, short with a big round belly, elephant headed with one trunk, four arms, large ears, bright shining eyes.

There are multiple versions about the origin of Lord Vinayaka. According to the Varahapurana, once upon a time the Devas approached Lord Siva and submitted before him the need of a baby who can do away with all obstacles. With the consent of Parvathy devi, Siva agreed to the proposal. Devi became pregnant and gave birth to a beautiful baby. The ladies of Devalokam gathered around him. Keeping in mind the character of the ladies Parvathy blessed her child with these words: "May your beauty change to that of a tusker headed body with a big belly." Her desire was fulfilled. But Lord Siva, though unhappy, named him Ganesa and he blessed Ganesha saying, "Your position will be above all Ganas. All gods will acknowledge the prominence of Ganesa, and those who are not ready to worship you will fall into deep waters."

The Skandapurana says that Ganapathy was formed from the dirt collected from the body of Goddess Parvathy. Devi created an extraordinary elephant-headed creature with four arms and deputed him to safeguard the entrance towards the Chandraprathishta, which was being performed in heaven.

According to the Padmapurana, Parvathy, like all of God's creations, had the desire to give birth to a son who would be the embodiment of all virtue. For this she prayed to God Vishnu who appeared before her. He granted her wish by taking birth in her womb. The son thus born to Parvathy is Ganapathy.

Ref: kottarakaramahaganapathi.org

Kottarakkara Sri Mahaganapathi Temple

About Kottarakkara:

Kottarakkara is a town and municipality in Kollam District (formerly known as Quilon), in Kerala state, India. The town is close to Kollam Port, which has a rich history linked to the early medieval period as well as a reputation as an important commercial, industrial and trading centre. Kottarakkara was the capital of the famous Ilayidathu swaroopam. The historical evidence collected from here reveal that about seven -palaces- existed there. Kottarakkara, a compound word made up of the words Kottaram, meaning "palace", and kara meaning "land", literally means "land of palaces".

Besides Manikandeswara Kshethram, owned by the Ilayidathu dynasty is the Kottarakkara kovilakam of which historical evidences are available from the sixth century of Malayalam era. Kottarakkara kovilakam was the younger thavazhy of the Venad dynasty. So this was known as the Ilayidathu (younger) swaroopam, and also as Kunninmel. The land spreads from Kottarakkara, Pathanapuram and Nedumangad to Shencottah in the east.

Chera Udaya Marthandavarma, who ruled Venad during A.D.1383-1444, is supposed to have built the Kovilakam. But, according to the famous historian Sooranad Kunjanpillai, the Kunninmel dynasty has been mentioned in the Mathilakam Books in the year 1345 itself.

Kottarakkara is known as a land of temples. The Padinjattinkkara Mahadeva temple, Manikandeswara temple, Kulasekharanalloor Sreekrishna temple, Thrikkannamangal Mahavishnu temple, Neduvathur bhagavathy temple are all famous temples. There are also many places which are believed to be associated with Ramayana. These are Jadayumangalam (Chadayamangalam), Valiyonkunnu (known in connection with Bali), Ugramkunnu (connection with Sugreeva) and also Poredam, which is known as the battlefield of Ravana and Jadayu.



Lord Mahaganapathi:

Ganapathy is the leader of the Ganas, ie. the leader of groups, tribes, race, army, escorts, and hence Lord Shiva's first son is described as the supreme leader (Vinayaka). He is also known as Vigneswara – Lord of all obstacles. These names clearly show that He is a master of all Circumstances.

Ganapathy is represented as yellow skinned, short with a big round belly, elephant headed with one trunk, four arms, large ears and bright shining eyes.



In popular Hindu mythology, Ganesha is considered to be the son of the Hindu deity Shiva and Parvati. The most common account of his birth begins with Shiva leaving his wife Parvati for an extended period of time in order to meditate upon Mount Kailasa. This inspired intense loneliness within the goddess. Longing for a son, she gave birth to the young man, Ganesha. She quickly ordered him to stand guard at the door of her private chamber while she bathed. Eventually, Shiva returned from his meditation and attempted to access Parvati's private chamber. Ganesha refused to let him in and a struggle ensued, after which Shiva beheaded Ganesha. Hearing the commotion, Parvati came out of her bath and informed Shiva that he had just killed her child, and threatened to destroy the universe if the situation was not rectified. Shiva promptly sent his servants to the North, the holy direction, so that they could find a new head for Ganesha. Details as to where this replacement head came from vary according to different sources. Eventually, the servants found an elephant and cut off its head, which they placed upon Ganesh's shoulders upon their return. When Ganesh came back to consciousness, Shiva adopted him as his own.

Puranic myths provide a wide variety of other explanations for Ganesha's form. Some texts say that he was actually born with his elephant head (or heads), though in most stories he acquires the head later. In a different story, when Ganesha was born his mother Parvati showed off her new baby to the other gods. Unfortunately, the god Shani (a deity corresponding to the planet Saturn) – who is said to have the "evil eye" – looked at him, causing the baby's head to be burned to ashes. The god Vishnu came to the rescue and replaced the missing head with that of an elephant. In yet another story, Ganesha is created directly by Shiva's laughter. After Ganesha's birth, Shiva became concerned that the youth was excessively beautiful, and so he cursed Ganesha to have the head of an elephant and a protruding belly in order to make his appearance less appealing.



The Skandapurana says that Ganapathy was formed from the dirt collected from the body of Goddess Parvathy. Devi created an extraordinary elephant headed creature with four arms and deputed him to safeguard the entrance towards the Chandraprathishta, which was being performed in heaven.

As per the Matsyapurana, Lord Shiva had the habit of peeping while Goddess Parvathy had her oil bath. On one occasion Devi came across the peeping Siva. Though her husband, she did not like this action of his. Parvathy thus created a figure out of the dirt she had washed away from her body and breathed it by sprinkling water from the Ganges. As usual Shiva tried to enter the bathing place of Parvathy. The guard didn't allow him in. Furious, Shiva cut the guard's throat. Fearing Parvathy's anger, Shiva swiftly went out. He saw an elephant there, cut down its head and fixed it to the body of Parvathy's creation. Thus was born Parvathy's son, the elephant headed Ganapathy.

According to the Padmapurana, Parvathy, like all of God's creations, had the desire to give birth to a son who would be the embodiment of all virtue. For this she prayed to God Vishnu who appeared before her. He granted her wish by taking birth in her womb. The son thus born to Parvathy is Ganapathy.

The Uthararamayana, portrays Siva and Parvathy as a couple who were interested in novel ways of sexual intercourse. One day they accepted the posture of an elephant, and thus was born the elephant headed Ganapathy.



About the Temple:



Kottarakara Ganapathy Temple is one of the famous temples in south india with great historical importance. There are many legends about Kottarakara Ganapathy. Actually the main 'Pratishtha'(Idol) is Lord Shiva, but Ganapathy is famous here. The exact name of the temple was Kizhakkekara Shiva Kshethram. The main deity is none other than Lord Shiva himself – Shiva facing eastward. In fact Ganapathy is only a minor deity here. But the temple today is more famous as a Ganapathy temple rather than a Shiva temple.

The legend behind this is that Kizhakkekara temple was the property of two Nampoothiri houses – Akavoor and Oomanpally. Padinjattinkara Shiva temple belonged to the royal house of Elayidathu.



One day, before sunrise, rituals were taking place for the consecration of Shiva at the Pandinjattinkara temple, the work of which was managed by the legendary Uliyannor Perumthachan. Outside the temple, while listening to the mantras, he started chiselling a piece of jackfruit tree. To his surprise, he found that it was the form of 'Ganapathy' that was taking shape. Thus he asked the chief priest to enshrine 'Ganapathy' also after the consecration of Shiva. The chief priest denied. "This is a Shiva temple. Ganapathy cannot be consecrated here."

Perumthachan, desperate, walked towards the east and thus reached Kizhakkekara Shiva temple where the temple priest was preparing offerings for the lord- Unniyappam. Perumthachan asked him "Can you not sanctify this Ganapathy here?". The priest agreed. Perumthachan viewed the place- Shiva facing east, in front of that it is Ganga, Parvathy turned towards the west. Southwest there is Sastha and northwest Subrahmanya. If

Ganapathy too is installed, the Shiva family will be complete. The place will be none other than Kailas itself. Thus Ganapathy was installed southeast by Perumthachan.

Perumthachan then asked the priest “ Unni Ganapathy must be hungry. What is the sacrificial food that you have prepared?”. “Unniyappam” was the reply. On a leaf, the priest placed six to seven Unniyappams stringed together. Perumthachan, with all his heart devoted his first offerings-Kottappam. Kottappam is still known to be the most wanted nivedyam for Kottarakara Ganapathy. After the offerings Perumthachan affectionately declared “Though father is the main deity, the son will be much more famous”.

His words proved to be true. Kizhakkekkara Shiva temple is now known as Kottarakara Ganapathy temple.

Temple timings:

Morning:

04:00 AM	Palliyunarthai
04:30 AM	Nadathurappu
04:40 AM	Nirmalyam
04:50 AM	Abhishekam
05:30 AM	Ashtadravya Ganapathihomam
06:00 AM	Usha Pooja
07:00 AM	Ethrithe Pooja
07:15 AM	Sreebali
09:00 AM	Pantheeradi Pooja
10:00 AM	Navaka Pooja
10:30 AM	Ucha Pooja
11:00 AM	Uchasreebali
11:30 AM	Nadayadappu

Evening:

5:00 PM	Nadathurakkal
6:30 PM	Deeparadhana
7:30 PM	Athazha Pooja
7:45 PM	Athazha Sreebali
8:00 PM	Nadayadappu

Unniyappam Vazhipadu is not accepted on Udayastamana Pooja days. Please check the [temple events calendar](#) in the website for knowing about 'Udayastamana Pooja' days.

Kshetra Tantrikal:

Parsuraman, believed to be the great founder of Kerala, consecrated as many temples across the land. In order to perform the customary duties of temples he authorised 12

thanthri's. One among them is the Tharananallur Thanthri who is the thanthri of Kottarakara temple. He is the thanthri of Sreepadmanabha Swami Temple, Thiruvananthapuram.



Kottarikara Unniyappam:

Along with the name Kottarakkara Ganapathy Temple, the other name that instantaneously strikes one's mind is Kottarakkara Unniyappam. It was also the first offering of the famous sculptor Perumthachan, who carved the idol of Mahaganapathy and enshrined Ganapathy at Kottarakkara. It was actually six to seven unaiaapams strung together and made as an offering, which is otherwise known as Koottappam.

Ganapathy was so particular that his favourite 'naivedyam' Unniappam should be made in front of him. Therefore, it is in front of the shrine of Ganapathy that the holy fire is lit for making Unniappam. Moreover, it is only after the sanctum sanctorum is open that the uniappam's are made. Raw rice, jaggery, 'kadali'- a variety of banana and Ganapathy's favourite, ghee and sugar are the ingredients used for making unniappam. Right from dawn to dusk, unniappam are made and all of these together are made as an offering to the Lord at dusk. Later on, it is distributed freely to the devotees. This offering is known as Udayasthamana Pooja. This offering came into practice centuries ago when the issueless Kottarakkara Thampuran made such an offering for propitiating the Gods to bless him with a child. It is after one's wishes are granted that the offering is made. Though, very expensive, there is a great rush among devotees, that it is even difficult to get a date for making the offering. This, and the heavy rush of devotees to Kottarakkara Ganapathy Temple speaks volumes of Lord Ganapathy's love, care and concern towards them. Just as Kathakali, which was first performed at Kottarakkara Ganapathy Temple, became famous worldwide, unniappam too has attained fame and is in wide circulation as Kottarakkara unniyappam, just like Ambalapuzha 'paalpayasam'.



Upadevathakal:

Subrhmnya Swami, Sree Dharma Shasta Temple and Naga Daivangal are the updevathakal in the temple. Thaipooyam and skanda shasti are the major festivals and functions in the Subrhmnya Swami temple. Special bhajana and poojas are performed in the Dharmasastha nada during the Mandalakalam. The Nagaprathishta was done by Pambummekkattu Thanthrikal, Ayilyam Pooja conducting Thulam month of malayalam era for the Naga Daivangal.



Festivals:

Vinayaka Chathurthy

Vinayaka Chathurthi Lord Vinayaka's birthday falls on the chathurthi day of the bright half of the Malayalam month 'chingam'. This particular day is marked with the great Mahaganapathy Homam, using 1008 coconuts. Besides Unniyappam, Modhakam is also offered to Ganapathy. The other major ceremonies include Sarvaiswarya pooja, Gajapooja, Annadanam etc.

Medathiruvathira

This is the famous day of Thirvarattu. The large-scale festival celebrations of eleven days come to an end on this day. Kettukazhcha is a major attraction of the day.

Mandalachirappu

Kottarakkara temple is an edathavalam (resting place) for the sabarimala pilgrims. Special bhajana and poojas are performed in the Dharmasastha nada.

Shivarathri

The festival during the month of Kumbham, is marked by special poojas for Lord Siva.

Ayilyam-Makam

Special poojas for the Nagadaivanjal. The Nagaprathishta was done by Pambummekkattu Thanthrikal.

Navarathri

Every year grand Navarathri celebrations will be held at the Devitemple. Thousands throng to the temple to perform the Vidyarambham of their little ones.

Prathishtadinam(Cosecration day)

This falls on the Uthrittathy nakshatra of Makara masa. Bhagavatha Sapthaham, Devibhaghavatha Navaham, Annadhanam are the major events.

Thyppooyam

Kavdiyattam and other rituals are being performed in the Muruga temple.

Vishu

Vishu is a Hindu festival primarily celebrated in the Indian state of Kerala, which marks the beginning of the new year. For Malayalees this is a very special day which marks a prosperous beginning. People from every nook and corners of the area come here to seek the blessings of Lord Ganapathy.

Please check the [temple events calendar](#) in the website for knowing about festival Days.

Vazhipadukal:

The major vazhipadu of Kottarakkara temple is the famous **Udayasthamaya pooja**. There is an interesting legend behind this peculiar vazhipadu. This incident took place at the time of the construction of the temple. Kottarakkara Thampuran was not happy with Perumthachan, because he consecrated the deity of Ganesa at the Kizhakkekkara temple. Actually Thampuran's plan to build a new temple came from some dislike with the Mana, who owned the Kizhakkekkara temple. One day with much sarcasm, Thampuran asked Perumthachan, "Is your Ganapathy that brilliant?" Thachan asserted, "Yes". Then Thampuran challenged Perumthachan and asked him to ask Ganapathy to give him a son. Perumthachan accepted the challenge and asked, "What you will you offer as a reward?" Thampuran declared "I will completely cover the idol with Unniyappam". Before one year Thampuratty became pregnant and gave birth to a beautiful young boy. At the day of the newly born baby's Choroonu preparations began to make unniyappam. The choroonu ceremony can take place only after covering the idol with unniappam. The thampuran firmly believed that the idol being small would be covered within no time. Though unniappam was made right from morning, even at noon the idol could not be covered upto the waist. An old man was witness to all that was happening there. He came forward and asked the Thampuran, "Have you been testing Ganapathy? You will not be able to keep your word as you are filled with pride. As you have been making unni appams right from dawn to dusk and now that you have realised that you are insignificant before Him, you can stop your offerings." This was the first Udayasthamana vazhipadu.

That night, Thampuran had a dream in which the old man appeared before him and said, "I am Ganapathy. You should not test me again. Every month you must do the Udayasthamana

pooja.” Thus till his death the Thampuran did the pooja. From then onwards Udayasthamaya pooja became a major vazhipadu for Kottarakara Ganapathy.

Like most other Vinayaka temples, here also Ashtadravya Ganapathyhomam acquires a prominent place. Other important offerings include, breaking of coconuts, Thulabharam, Chathussatham, Thrimadhuram, Archana and Pushpanjali. Udayasthamaya pooja and Ashtadravya Ganapathyhomam can be performed through advanced booking.

Gaja Muthuchan:

The history, culture and custom of Kerala, is closely related to an animal which is believed to be divine and that is the Elephant. The legendary figures of this category include Guruvayoor Kesavan, Guruvayoor Padmanabhan, Kottarakara Chandrasekharan and a few others. We can very well accommodate Kottarakara Krishnankutty to that fold of The Great tuskers. The festivals around Kottarakara were deeply related to this tusker for the last 60 years. Recently, at the age of 94, this godly elephant passed away. The life in and around Kottarakara, came to a standstill on hearing the sad news. By putting up huge flex boards and posters of Krishnankutty the people convened prayer meetings and remembrance gatherings. Devaswom board and the locals are planning to set up a fitting memorial to this tusker that has become a legend. Kottarakara Krishnankutty occupied the central position during the annual temple festivals in and around Kottarakara, especially in the famous Ganapathy and Mahadeva temples.

BEFORE SIXTY YEARS FROM THEVAPPURAM

The Gajaratnam was bought by the authorities of Kottarakara Padinjattinkara Mahadeva temple, from Sankupillai of Kaippallazhikathu in Thevappuram. Sankupillai obtained the Komban from a Christian family. Pillai had three more elephants in his folder. He was a famous timber merchant of those days. The tuskers were used for heavy loading works in the timber mill. Krishnankutty was never interested in the job at the timber mill. On the other hand, he always showed great interest in the ceremonial programmes in the temples, especially that of The Moonnumoorthy temple near the Kaippallazhikathu house. So Pillai sold Krishnankutty to the Kottarakara devaswom. Thus even though he became the native of Kottarakara, he never failed to attend the festivals of Moonnumoorthy.

One particular year, Krishnankutty was not feeling physically fit for the Ezhunnallathu due to a wound in his leg. So he was given rest. During the festival day of the Thevalappuram temple, the mahouts noticed that he was missing. All of them went around and finally they traced the elephant which was on his way to Thevalappuram. The mahouts accompanied Him to the Kaippallazhikathu house, from where he got food as usual. After that Krishnankutty went to the temple. He bowed before the Deity, and collected some oil from the kalvilakku and applied that over the wound. The temple authorities then gave the Thidambu to Krishnankutty and he led the festival as usual. Though Krishnankutty was owned by the Padinjattinkara Mahadeva temple, he is widely known as the obedient servant of Kottarakara Ganapathy. Every morning, He starts from the Padinjattinkara temple to the Ganapathy temple. There, after completing the pradakshinam He would get Unniyappam. During the very famous festival of Maha Ganapathy, as many as sixty elephants from in and

around take part. But the Thidambu would always be offered to Krishnankutty only. This is because of his peculiarities in this regard. The elephants usually fold their right leg in order to felicitate the Thidambettal. But Krishnankutty always folded his forelegs such as bowing in front of the Deity. At the time of Ezhunnallathu, Krishnankutty allowed none to come across Him and the Paanivilakku, which was lit from the Sanctum Sanctorum.

Once, when the glory of Moonuumoorthy temple was on the decline, a wonder occurred. On a festival day, as usual, the Thidambu was on Krishnankutty. Suddenly one of the priests walked across the Paanivilakku. This irritated Krishnankutty, He pulled down the priest who was sitting on Him. Krishnankutty started running round the area helter skelter, frightening everybody. But He did not try to harm any person. He selected some of the lands of the persons who were not taking adequate steps for the renovation of the temple and trampled everything on their land. This incident necessitated the authorities and the locals to assemble together and conduct a Devaprasnam. As per the directions the renovation of the temple was done, thus regaining its lost glory. With this incident the Thevalappuram people's affection and love towards Krishnankutty increased several folds. Marking the conclusion of the festival of Padinjattinkara Mahadeva, is the Aaraattu ezhunnallathu towards Thrikkannamangalam temple. The Devan longs to meet the Kadalayi Mana Devi there. But against his wish, the temple remains closed due to Devi's 'Thrippoothu' (a feminine menstrual condition). The legend says that Mahadevan, without having a glimpse of Devi returns frustrated. For years it is Krishnankutty who carries the thidambu for the ezhunnellathu. Krishnankutty who appears exhilarated while walking towards the Devi returns dejected. This dejection on the part of Krishnankutty is viewed by the people as the sorrow on the part of the Devan Himself.

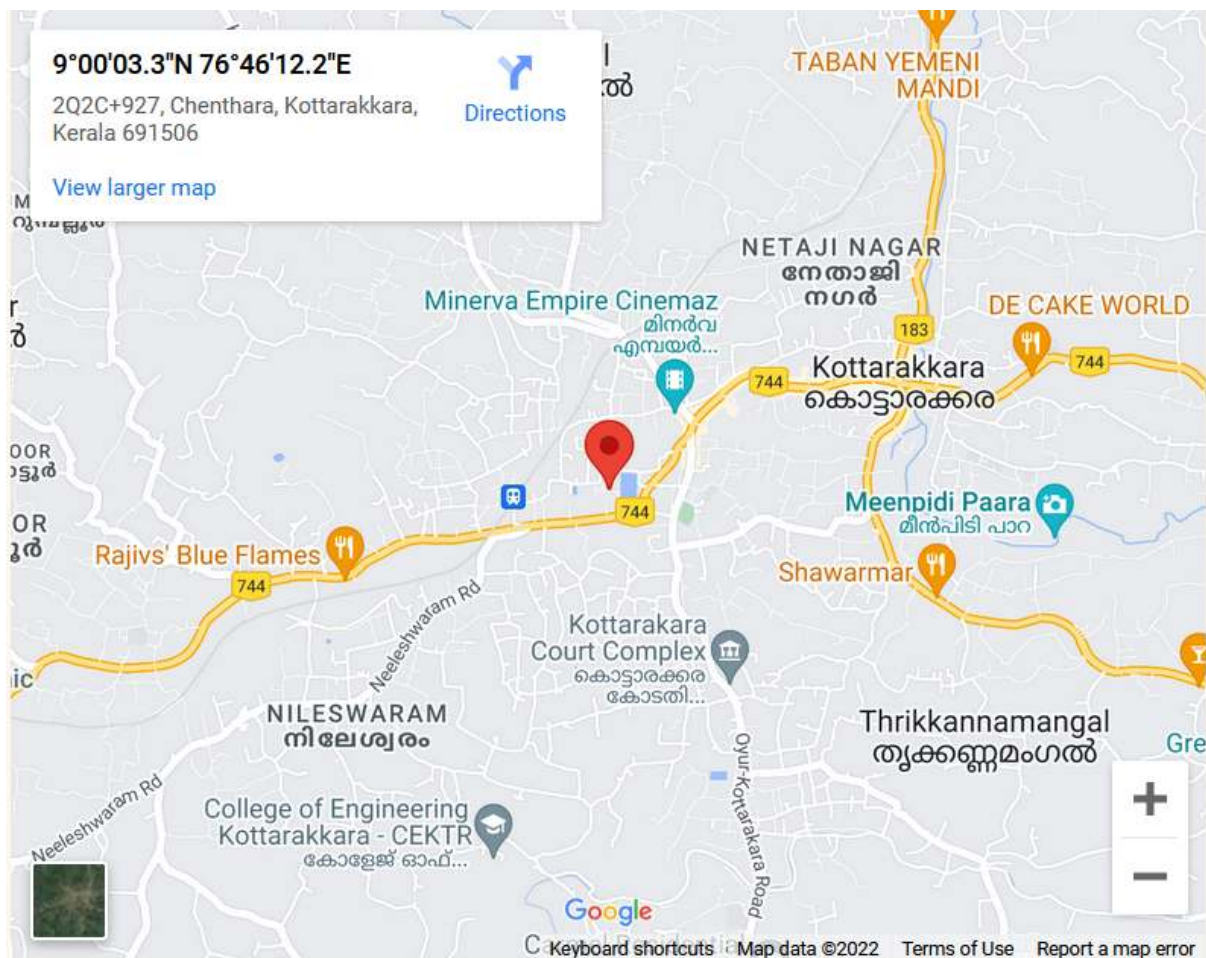
Krishnankutty has all the characteristics that go into the making of a perfect elephant - its high head, its strong tusks, its red tinted soft edged ears, its well shaped nails, its tusks touching the ground. But what sets it apart from all the other tuskers is its devotion and care towards the affairs of the temple. In fact in the history of the Travancore Devaswom Board there is no other elephant that has offered its service for such a long period of time. In spite of being a part in a lot of ezhunnellathu's it has never ever harmed a human being. On the day of Vinayaka Chaturthi, Kottarakara Mahaganapathy Temple used to offer Gajapuja to Krishnankutty. This speaks volumes of the love and regards the people had towards Him. The story of this gajarajan who left for His heavenly abode at the age of 94 will remain so long as the history of the temples of Kottarakara remain.



Temple Address:

Chenthara,
Kottarakkara,
Kerala 691506
Phone: 0474 245 7200

e-mail: kottarakaratemple@gmail.com

Map:**Nearest temples:****Pattazhy Devi Temple**

Pattazhy is a temple village situated in Pathanapuram Taluk of Kollam District in Kerala. The land of Pattazhy comprising two panchayat areas (Pattazhy and Pattazhy vadakekara) was given as a gift to Pattazhy Devi by the King of Travancore for the help and shelter given during the fierce battle against the king of Kayamkulam. The place is highly gifted with its natural beauty. The green hills and valleys, the river Kallada and sky high rocks are an added attraction. Pattazhy also got a place in the Guinness Book of world records for the

'Longest bamboo'. Pattazhy Devi Kshetra Samrakshana Samithi registered in 1971 has been working successfully aiming at the cultural, social and spiritual development of the people and also for the preservation of the historic temple and its traditions. Pattazhy is a blessed place having the peace and tranquillity of Devi's divine presence. The atmosphere is pleasant with the abundance of flora and fauna with a heavenly texture filled with chirping of birds and musical symphony of river Kallada, giving a celestial experience.



The first syllable of the word Pattazhy (Patt) means soft and it represents the compassion and affection of Devi to her beloved devotees. The second part Aazhy means ocean which represents the depth of Devi's grace. The name Pattazhy was also derived from the word Bhattarika which means a virtuous and pious woman. For more details please visit www.pattazhydevitemple.org

Mannady Temple

About the origin of this merciful and graceful Mannady Devi, certain legends are prevailing. According to one version this Bhagavathy is a 'SELF MANIFESTED' goddess to redress grievances of the pious believers. According to one of the legends, an old lady in order to cut grass from the premises of the temple, sharpened her sickle ('arival' in local parlance) by rubbing it against a stone. Suddenly blood started oozing out of the stone. Hearing her loud cry the residents of the locality rushed to the place and was also witness to this unique incident.



One among them suggested that, the flow may be terminated by beating the sand with power at the stone from which blood was oozing. By doing so, the flow of blood stopped.

The sand was the material used for stopping the flow and beating was the mode of method used for it. Hence a new word originated by using sand – beat. Later this place has been given the meaning derived from the two words, sand-beat- in Malayalam Mannady. It became a Desam of the earstwhile Travancore.

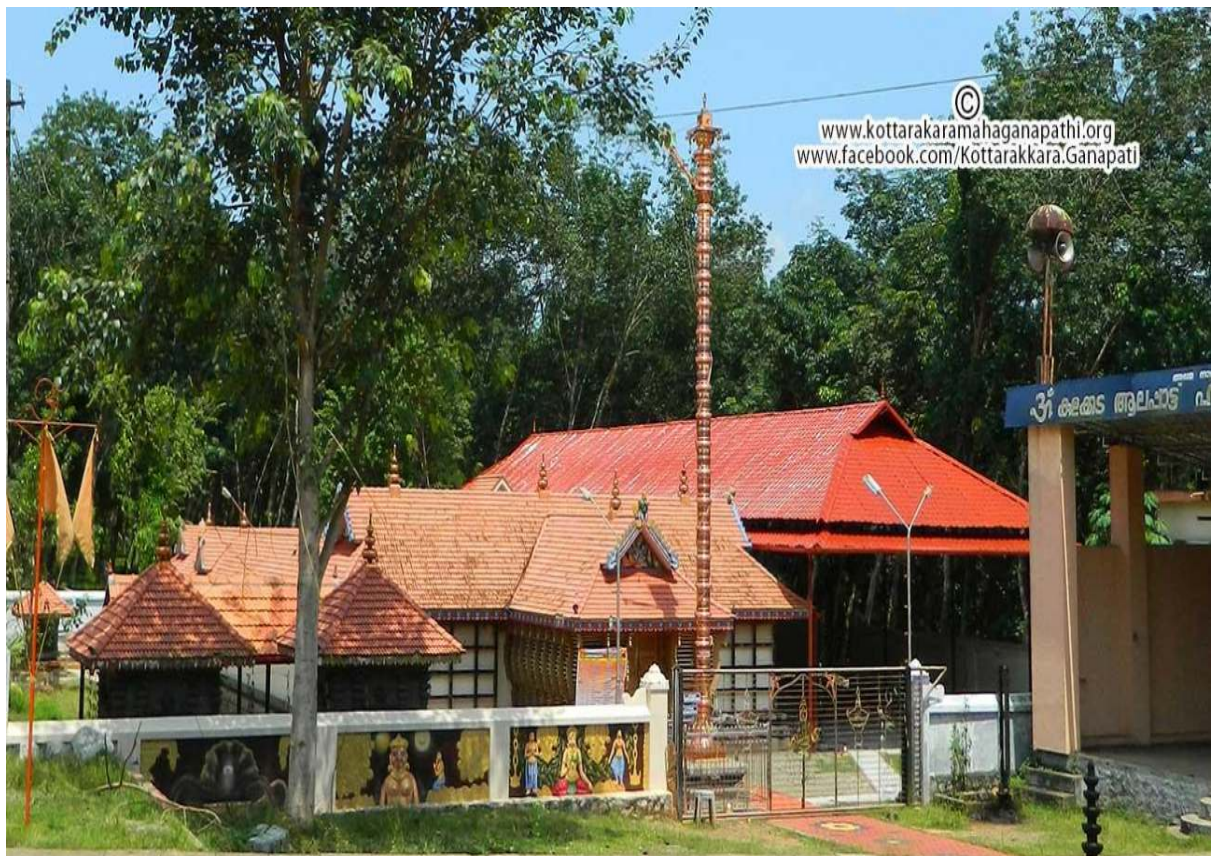
Padinjatinchery Sree Mahadeva Temple



Kottathala Thanneer Panthal Devi Temple



Kulakkada Alappaatu Devi Temple



Poovattoor Bhagavathi Temple



Thalavoor Temple



Vendar Subhrahmanya Swami Temple



Ref: myoksha.com

Kottarakkara Ganapathy Temple Guide

Kottarakkara Ganapathy Temple is located in Kollam district of **Kerala**. Kottarakkara Ganapathy is often referred to as 'Vigneshwaran' which means the one who removes all obstacles. The outlook of **Sri Ganesha** is described as yellow-skinned, short with a big round belly, elephant-headed with one trunk, four arms, large ears and bright shining eyes. Apart from the presiding deity, Lord Shiva, Goddess Parvathi, Lord Murugan, Lord Ayyappa, and Lord Nagaraja are also worshipped here.

[Kottaram](#) means Palace and Kara means Land. The last queen of the Elayidathu Swaroopam voluntarily surrendered to king Marthanda Varma of Travancore in the 18th century. Kottarakkara is the place where the classical art form of Kathakali was conceived. It is a famous pilgrim centre for the Hindus as the seat of the famous Ganapathy Temple.

History & legend:

- The place that we now call Mahaganapathy temple is actually Kizhakkekara Shiva temple. The main deity is none other than Lord Shiva himself. Shiva is facing eastward. In fact, Ganesha is only a minor deity here. But Kottarakkara Ganapathy Temple today is famous as a Ganesha temple rather than a Shiva temple.
- This legend is associated with Perumthachan. The royal sculptors Perumthachan (Master Carpenter) had a son. He mastered and excelled in carpentry and architecture like his father.
- His son soon excelled his own perfection. The fame of Perumthachan soon spread far and wide. This is said to have caused a sort of professional jealousy in Perumthachan. According to the Aithiyamala, Perumthachan dropped his chisel on his own son faking it as an accident.
- After the death of his son, Perumthachan started wandering. One day he reached Kottarakkara. The Padinjattinkara temple was under renovation at that time. He saw a big piece of jack tree root inside the Sarppakkavu.
- It is believed that he sculptured a beautiful Ganapathy idol from the root of the jack tree. Perumthachan had sought the permission of the tantr (chief priest) of Padinajattinkara temple to install the idol there. The tantr denied permission because there is already one Ganapathy idol.
- Perumthachan changed his plans and later, having secured the permission of the tantr of Manikandeswaram Kottarakkara Ganapathy Temple installed the idol there. The melsanthi (head priest) was preparing nivedyam (offerings for the Lord) there.
- He had asked the head priest what the nivedyam for Ganapathy will be. The priest suggested unniyappam and Perumthachan readily agreed. It is said that Perumthachan immediately offered half a dozen unniyappams in a plantain leaf before the deity. And still, koottappam is considered the favourite nivedyam of Ganapathy.

- Perumthachan had then predicted that even though the principal deity is the father (Shiva), the son (Ganapathy) will become more famous. The kitchen where Unniappams are prepared is situated in front of the Ganapathy shrine.
- Another story associated with this temple is that Kottarakkara Thampuran's daughter was getting married. He requested Zamorin of Kozhikode to send a dance troupe from Malabar to perform in his daughter's wedding. But the Zamorin sarcastically denied sending the troupe saying that people of South Kerala cannot appreciate fine art like Krishnanattam. This insulted the Kottarakkara Thampuran and he prayed to Lord Ganapathy at Kizhakkekara for a way out.
- Sri Mahaganapathy appeared in the dream of the Thampuran and gave him the idea to create a new art form. It was Saraswathi Kadaksham and the Thampuran wrote the Ramanattam. He designed the costumes and in record time performed the Arangetram during the marriage of his daughter. This was a fitting reply to the arrogance of the Zamorin of Kozhikode.

Significance of this temple:

- Kottarakkara Sree Maha Ganapathy Temple is beautiful and magnificent. A number of rituals is being done here by the priests. Different schedules are followed to worship and to perform the rituals devoted to the presiding deity of the temple.
- Kottarakkara was the capital of the famous 'Ilayidathu swaroopam'. As the name explains, there existed about seven palaces and the place was called 'The land of palaces' – "Kottarakkara". 'Kottarakkara Kovilakam' was the younger 'thavazhy' of the 'Venad' dynasty.
- So this was known as the Ilayidathu (younger) swaroopam, and also as Kunninmel. The land spreads from Kottarakkara, Pathanapuram and Nedumangad to Shencottah in the east.

Timings & poojas:

- Kottarakkara Ganapathy Temple remains open from 4:00 AM to 11:30 AM in the morning and 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the evening. Palliyunathal is performed followed by Nadathurakkal at 4:30 AM. It is the opening of the sanctum sanctorum to enable the devotees to venerate the holy portrait of the deity.
- Then there is Nirmalyam at 4:40 AM which is intended for seeking the permission of Dwasthhas and the deity for entering the sanctum. Then the doors are opened and the lights are lit. Divine worship of the idol at this stage is known as Nirmalya Darshana.
- There are different important rituals that are performed in the morning. It includes Abhishekam that is conducted at 4:50 AM which is followed by Ashtadravya Ganapathyhoman. Abhishekam is conducted by priests, by pouring libations on the deity being worshipped, amidst the chanting of mantras.
- The first worship of the day is Usha pooja or pooja at dawn. Though generally, the time of Usha pooja is thirty minutes after the sunrise, there are variations in the timings on various temples. It is performed at 6:00 AM. Ethrtiheu pooja is conducted at the moment when the rays of the sun are in front of the deity or garbha dwara and it is conducted at 7:00 AM.

- Pantheeradi pooja is elaborate in nature and done only in major temples. This is done 2 hours after sunrise and it is performed at 9:00 AM. Navaka Pooja is done only in major temples especially in Siva temples. Here it is performed at 10:00 AM.
- After the Ucha Pooja that is performed at 10:30 AM the temple closes in the morning at around 11:30 AM.
- Kottarakkara Ganapathy Temple opens again at 5:00 PM and there is an evening pooja that is Deeparadhana that is performed by the priest at 6:30 PM. Deeparadhana is the worship with lamps, performed at dawn and dusk. Pyramidal lamps with seven tiers, lamps with five wicks and plain lamps with a single wick are lightened and waved several times in front of the Lord, from head to foot. Similar waving is then done with lighted camphor. It is considered to be an auspicious act to pray during deeparadhana time. Athazha pooja vis the last pooja conducted in a temple on a day. This is done between one and two hours after sunset. It is performed at 7:45 PM and the temple finally closes at 8:00 PM.

Dhara, Chathussatham for Mahadev, Archana for Goddess Parvathy, Lemon garland for Subramanya, Unniyappam for Ganapathy and 41 days Mandalam Chirappu is also very important. Unni Appam is the offering that is specially prepared to offer to the deity of Kottarakkara Sree Maha Ganapathy Temple.

Festivals celebrated:

- **Vinayaka Chaturthi:** Vinayaka Chaturthi is one of the important Hindu festivals. This day is celebrated as the birthday of Lord Ganesh. [Ganesh Chaturthi](#) is celebrated on Shukla Chaturthi of the Hindu month of Bhadra (generally falls between August and September). This particular day is marked with great Mahaganapathy Homam, using 1008 coconuts. Mahaganapathi is believed to remove obstacles not only in the material world but also in one's spiritual progress. The Mahaganapathi Homam is performed by people desiring progress in various material pursuits as well as those seeking liberation and spiritual awakening.
- **Navaratri:** Navratri is traditionally celebrated at the beginning of autumn every year when everything in nature starts undergoing a transformation. These nine nights are said to be precious as there are subtle energies in the creation that are enriched at this time of the year. Navaratri is divided into sets of three days to adore different aspects of the supreme goddess. On the first three days, the Mother is invoked as a powerful force called Durga in order to destroy all our impurities, vices and defects. The next three days, the Mother is adored as a giver of spiritual wealth, Lakshmi, who is considered to have the power of bestowing on her devotees the inexhaustible wealth. The final set of three days is spent in worshipping the mother as the goddess of wisdom, Saraswati. Thousands throng to the temple to perform the Vidyarambham.
- **Vishu:** Vishu is the first day of the [Hindu calendar](#) and is the beginning of Meda Rashi, the first zodiac sign. It usually falls in the second week of April according to the English calendar. It marks the beginning of new hopes and aspirations and is celebrated widely all across the state. People start with early morning prayers at dawn on this auspicious day by visiting the temple.

- **Sivarathri:** Sivaratri, dedicated to Lord Shiva, is celebrated on the moonless night of the month of Phalguna. the night time is considered sacred and suitable for the worship of the feminine aspect of the deity and the day time for that of the masculine. The people who observe this Sivaratri- Vratha take only a single meal during the day previous to the Vratha day. The observance of the Vratha is believed to secure for the devotee immunity from the effects of sin.

How to reach:

By Road: Buses and Taxis can be boarded from Kottarakkara, Kollam, Trivandrum and Kottayam that takes the passengers directly to the Kottarakkara Sree Maha Ganapathy Temple.

By Rail: The Nearest Railway station is Kottarakkara station. Board a train passing through Kottarakkara, Kollam and Trivandrum railway stations to reach the temple. Kollam station is at a distance of 28 Km and Trivandrum at a distance of 70 Km.

By Air: The Nearest Airport is Trivandrum Airport that is 70 Km from the temple. Kochi Airport is at a distance of 191 Km.

Where to stay:

There are many hotels as well as guest rooms near the temple. The rooms are well equipped with all the basic amenities.

- **Ambalakkara Regency Hotel** Contact: Pulamon Junction, Kottarakkara
- **Harisree Residency** Contact: Kottiyam Kundara Road, Perumpuzha, Kottamkara
- **Hotel Indraprastha Pattazhy** Contact: Market Junction, Pattazhy P.O., Kollam
- **Hotel Midhuna International** Contact: Enathu, Kottarakkara – Adoor Road
- **Park Residency** Contact: Paracode, Kayamkulam Pathanapuram Highway
- **Hotel Vrindhavanam Inn** Contact: Near KSRTC Bus Station, Punalur

Where to eat:

Kottarakkara Unniyappam (small appam) is as famous as Ambalapuzha Palpayasam. If you start eating one, you feel like having more. Cooked in special taste the unniyappam comes with sprinkled sugar on it. The grace of Lord Ganapathi makes unniyappam as double sweet to the believers. It is said that unniyappam was the first offering given to the Ganapati temple which was installed by Peruthachan. Besides, there are many restaurants nearby that offer amazing Kerala cuisine.

Nearby temples:

Mannady Temple: Mannadi is a small village situated in Kollam (district of Kerala). It is believed that the [Kali Ma](#) of this temple is very powerful and if worshipped with devotion all the wishes will come true. The Kerala Institute of Folklore and Folk Arts functions here.

Madanthampuran and Yakshiamma were positioned as SafeGuard to Devi. The ancestors who had brought Devi to the temple were worshipped in the Nomenclatures of Manthramoorthy and Yogeeshwaran after their Death. Poojas were not performed systematically. Hence, the youth adopted the management of the temple from the Pallithanam Family. They appointed a Priest and thus Poojas performed regularly.

Pattazhy Devi Temple: Pattazhi is a small village in the eastern part of Kollam District in Kerala. It is located just 10 kilometres away from Kottarakkara and just 9 kilometres from Pathanapuram. The temple is an ancient temple and the legend. The land of Pattazhy consists of two panchayat areas and was given as a gift to Goddess Pattazhy Devi by the King of Travancore. Pattazhy has a place in the Guinness Book of World Records for growing the longest bamboo. The temple has been taken care of by nine families once. Then a man called “kambithan” came there. He was very powerful and had many divine powers too. He took care of the administration of the temple. There is a Shiva Temple which seems to be older than this Devi temple which is located near to this temple.

Pallickal Devi Temple: Pallickal Devi Temple is one of the famous temples in Kollam District. This is one of the sub-temples of Mannadi temple. Pallikkal Maha Devi temple has a rich history of more than a thousand years. Pallikkalamma is a mother goddess with sathvika bhavam. There are a number of incidents to illustrate her kindness.

Ref: holidify.com

Kottarakkara Sree Mahaganapathi Kshethram, Kollam Overview

The Kottarakkara Sree Mahaganapathi Kshethram is a famous pilgrim centre that is located in southern India, in Kottarakkara, twenty-five kilometres away from Kollam. Considered to be one of the most important Maha Ganapathi Temple in all of Kerala, the temple is believed to be centuries old. Even though the main deity at the temple is Lord Shiva, Lord Ganesha is given utmost importance here. Other deities worshipped at the temple are Goddess Parvati, Lord Ganesha, Lord Murugan, Nagaraja and Lord Ayyappan.

Legend of Sri Mahaganapathi Temple

The legend of the Kottarakkara Sree Mahaganapathi Kshethram is associated with Perumthachan, who was a master carpenter who skillfully trained his son in carpentry and architecture. When the son bypassed the father's skills and began to become famous far and wide, Perumthachan began to suffer from professional jealousy. If rumours are true, he dropped his chisel on his own son and faked it as an accident. Following these sad turn of events, Perumthachan started wandering and reached Kottarakkara, where he saw the Padinjattinkara temple that was under renovation. He also saw a jack tree root inside the Sarppakkavu, and he sculpted a beautiful idol of Lord Ganpati from the root. He asked the chief priest for his permission to install the lovely icon there, but he was denied since the temple already had one idol in it. Perumthachan then obtained permission from the main priest of the Manikanteswaram Kottarakkara Ganapathy Temple, and he installed the idol

there. The melsanthi or the head priest was preparing nivedyam, that is offerings for the Lord, during this time. Perumthachan was curious and inquired about what the nivedyam for Lord Ganpati would be. When the head priest suggested unniyappam, Perumthachan readily agreed and instantly offered half a dozen unniyappams in a plantain leaf before the deity. Perumthachan then predicted that even though the presiding deity at the temple is Lord Shiva, his son Ganpati would gain more devotion and faith at the temple. This prophecy holds true to this date.

There is yet another tale attached to the temple of Kottarakkara Sree Mahaganapathy Kshethram which talks about the marriage of Kottarakkara Thampuran's daughter. The father of the to-be-bride requested Zamorin of Kozhikode to send a dance troupe from Malabar to perform at his daughter's wedding. Zamorin, however, sarcastically refused to send the troupe, stating that the people of South Kerala are incapable of appreciating a fine art like Krishnanattam. Kottarakkara Thampuran thus felt insulted and prayed to Lord Ganapati at Kizhakkekara to help him find a way out. Sri Mahaganapathy then appeared in the dream of Thampuran. He gave him the unique idea of creating an altogether different art form. Thampuran then wrote the Ramanattam, designed the costumes, and in record time performed the Arangetram during the marriage of his daughter.

Sri Mahaganapathi Temple Festivals

Numerous festivals are observed at the Kottarakkara Sree Mahaganapathy Kshethram each year with great enthusiasm and devotion. Prominent festivals celebrated here include Vinayaka Chaturthi, Medathiruvathira, Mandalachirappu, Shivratri and Navratri among others. The Vinayaka Chaturthi is celebrated to honour Lord Vinayaka's birthday, which falls on the Chaturthi day of the Malayalam month of Chingam. On this festival, Unniyappam and Modakam are offered to Ganapathy, and ceremonies like Sarvaiswarya pooja, Gajapooja and Annadanam take place.

During the celebrations of Mandalachirappu, the temple becomes a resting place for the Sabarimala pilgrims, and special bhajans and poojas are performed in the Dharmasastha nada. Every year, grand Navarathri celebrations are also held in the temple, when thousands of devotees throng to the temple to perform the Vidyarambham of their little ones. Other festivals like Prathishtadinam, Thaipooyam and Vishu are also celebrated in the temple.

How To Reach

The Kottarakkara Sree Mahaganapathy Kshethram is located 27 kilometres from the centre of Kollam, via the Kollam - Thirumangalam Road. You can easily reach the place by hiring a cab or by other local means of transportation. Travelling by taxi, however, is the recommended option.

More Details about Kottarakkara Sree Mahaganapathi Kshethram

The temple is well known not only in Kerala but all across the country. It is open to people of all religions, and non-Hindus also often visit to seek the blessings of the Almighty. The rich legends associated with the temple further aggravate the visitors' curiosity, and the place is

buzzing with tourists day and night. The grand temple attracts a large number of tourists especially during the festivities, which are celebrated by members of the local community as well as the tourists in harmony and utmost devotion to the lord. All in all, the Mahaganpathi Temple is a must visit while in Kollam to experience tranquillity and inner peace.

Similar places:



Amritapuri



Karunagappally



Aryankavu



Pattazhi



Mayyanad



Kulathupuzha



Maha Vishnu Temple



Rameshwara Temple,
Kollam

Nearby places:



Pattazhi



Maha Vishnu Temple



Sasthamcotta Lake



Munroe Island



Pathanapuram



Sasthamkotta Lake



Punalur



Jatayu Earth's Centre

Ref: tripadvisor.in

Photos:













Ref: kottarakaramahaganapathi.org

Photos:

Thrikodiyettu 2022:





Reconstruction of Ayyappa and Murugan temple started:







kodiyettu maholsavam 2020:



www.facebook.com/Kottarakkara.Ganapati





Lamp lightning - Painting Competition:





Trikodiyettu 2018:













Vinayaka Chaturthi 2016:













Deepakazhcha on 12 vilakku(27.11.2016):













Ref: FaceBook page: Kottarakkara Sree Mahaganapathi Temple

Photos:









www.kottarakaramahaganapathi.org



ശ്രീ മഹാഗണപതി ക്ഷേത്രം
കൊട്ടാരക്കര
മേടത്തിരുവാതിര
മഹോത്സവം
1195 മേടം 5 മുതൽ 15 വരെ
(2020 ഏപ്രിൽ 18 ശനി മുതൽ 28 ചൊവ്വ വരെ)

കൊട്ടാരക്കര ശ്രീ മഹാഗണപതിക്ഷേത്രത്തിലെ ഈ വർഷത്തെ മേടത്തിരുവാതിര മഹോത്സവം 1195 മേടം 5 (2020 ഏപ്രിൽ 18) ശനിയാഴ്ച തുടങ്ങിയതിൽ മേടം 15 (ഏപ്രിൽ 28) ചൊവ്വാഴ്ച തിരുത്തുവാർത്താടുകൂടി സമാപിക്കുകയാണ്. ഏറ്റവും കൈതങ്ങങ്ങളുടെയും സഹായ സഹകരണങ്ങൾ അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു.

ഉത്സവത്തിന്റെ മേൽകൈമായ നടത്തിപ്പിന് താഴെപ്പറയുന്നവർ ശ്രദ്ധിക്കണമെന്ന് അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു.

ഉത്സവ സമാവതര തൽക്കരണ ത്തങ്ങളുടെ കർത്തവ്യമായി കരുതി ഏറ്റവും താഴ്ന്നതും ഭക്ത ജനങ്ങളും കൈതങ്ങത്തിൽ പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്ന കാണാറിമാർ, കൈതളംപാശാലകസമിതി ഓഫീസിലോ സമാവതര തൽക്ക സഹകരിക്കണം.

വിദ്യകൈതളം അനുവദിക്കുന്ന കുട്ടികൾ തുടക്കം മുതൽ 11 ദിവസവും പങ്കെടുക്കുന്നത് ഉത്തമമായിരിക്കും.

പുറത്തു അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നവർ 2020 മാർച്ച് 30 നകം കൈതളംപാശാലക സമിതി ഓഫീസിൽ പോയി രജിസ്റ്റർ ചെയ്യണം.

എന്നീ

കൈതളംപാശാലകസമിതിക്കുവേണ്ടി

<p>ആർ. അനീൽകുമാർ, മുക്തദീപ്തി (പ്രസിഡന്റ്) 7958027236</p>	<p>എ. അശ്വതിദാസ്, തേക്കക്കര (മെമ്പർ പ്രസിഡന്റ്) 9826408619</p>	<p>ആർ. വത്സവ, കണ്ണാടകാണത്ത് (സെക്രട്ടറി) 8075973291</p>
<p>ശ്രീ എം. വിജയലക്ഷ്മി (ജനറൽ കമ്മീഷണർ)</p>	<p>വി. സുധീർകുമാർ (അഡ്മിനിസ്ട്രേറ്റീവ് ഓഫീസർ)</p>	

വിനോദ് വി. വല്ലഭം, എ. അശ്വതിദാസ്, അരുൺ, നീ. ശങ്കർ, വല്ലഭം, എസ്. എസ്. ഭാഗ്യകുമാർ, വല്ലഭം, എസ്. അനൂപ്, അരുൺ, വി. സതോഷ്കുമാർ, നീലേശ്വരം, കെ. യാദവ്, കുറുപ്പത്തറ, ആർ. രാജീവ്, പരിതോഷ്കരം, കെ. രാജീവ്, അരുൺ, എസ്. രാജീവ്, പരിതോഷ്കരം.

വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളുടെ മത്സരം

2020 ഏപ്രിൽ 5

തോയനാഴ്ച, രാവിലെ 9 മണിമുതൽ
(LP, UP, HS, College തലമുറ)

മത്സര ഇനങ്ങൾ

1. ശ്രീമദ് ഭഗവദ്ഗീതപാഠ്യയണി
(ഒന്നാം അദ്ധ്യായം സംക്ഷേപം)
55-ാം മൂലകം മുതൽ 77-ാം മൂലകം വരെ
2. ശ്രീഗണേശസ്തോത്രം (മനോഹരം) പാഠ്യയണി
(ഒന്നാം അദ്ധ്യായം) എന്നു തുടങ്ങി - ഒന്നാം അദ്ധ്യായം
എന്നോടുകൂടി (മുതൽ 75-ാം മൂലകം വരെ)
3. പരിമലകർമ്മം (മനോഹരം) പാഠ്യയണി
(ഒന്നാം അദ്ധ്യായം) എന്നു തുടങ്ങി കർമ്മശാസ്ത്രം
(ഒന്നാം അദ്ധ്യായം) എന്നോടുകൂടി (മുതൽ 75-ാം മൂലകം വരെ)

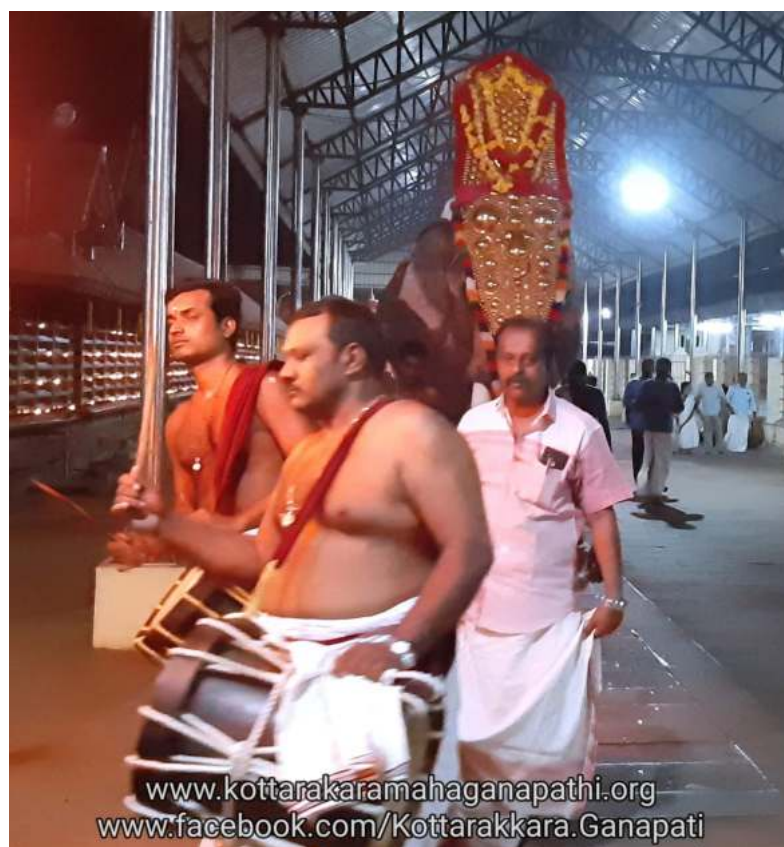
വൈദ്യുത ദീപാലങ്കാരം

ക്ഷേത്രോപദേശസമിതിയുടെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ
11 ദിവസവും വൈദ്യുത ദീപാലങ്കാരം ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുന്നതാണ്.

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 ശ്രീ മഹാഗണപതി ക്ഷേത്രം, കൊട്ടാരക്കര വൈകിട്ടത്തെ കഞ്ഞി 1195 വ്യക്തികൾ 1 മുതൽ ധനു 11 വരെ (2019 നവംബർ 17 മുതൽ ഡിസംബർ 27 വരെ) വഴിപാട് നടത്തുന്നവർ 				
01	വൃശ്ചികം 01	നവം 17	അഞ്ചര	പുണർത്തം
02	വൃശ്ചികം 02	നവം 18	തിങ്കൾ	പുതം
03	വൃശ്ചികം 03	നവം 19	ചൊവ്വ	ആഴിപ്പുഴ
04	വൃശ്ചികം 04	നവം 20	ബുധൻ	കിരം
05	വൃശ്ചികം 05	നവം 21	വ്യാഴം	പുരം
06	വൃശ്ചികം 06	നവം 22	വെള്ളി	ഉത്രം
07	വൃശ്ചികം 07	നവം 23	രവ്വ	അത്തം
08	വൃശ്ചികം 08	നവം 24	അഞ്ചര	ചിത്തം
09	വൃശ്ചികം 09	നവം 25	തിങ്കൾ	ചോതി
10	വൃശ്ചികം 10	നവം 26	ചൊവ്വ	വിശാഖം
11	വൃശ്ചികം 11	നവം 27	ബുധൻ	അതിരം
12	വൃശ്ചികം 12	നവം 28	വ്യാഴം	ആഴിപ്പുഴ
13	വൃശ്ചികം 13	നവം 29	വെള്ളി	ഉത്രം
14	വൃശ്ചികം 14	നവം 30	രവ്വ	പുരം
15	വൃശ്ചികം 15	ഡിസം 01	അഞ്ചര	ഉത്രം
16	വൃശ്ചികം 16	ഡിസം 02	തിങ്കൾ	വിശാഖം
17	വൃശ്ചികം 17	ഡിസം 03	ചൊവ്വ	അതിരം
18	വൃശ്ചികം 18	ഡിസം 04	ബുധൻ	ചോതി
19	വൃശ്ചികം 19	ഡിസം 05	വ്യാഴം	പുരം
20	വൃശ്ചികം 20	ഡിസം 06	വെള്ളി	ഉത്രം
21	വൃശ്ചികം 21	ഡിസം 07	രവ്വ	അത്തം
22	വൃശ്ചികം 22	ഡിസം 08	അഞ്ചര	ചിത്തം
23	വൃശ്ചികം 23	ഡിസം 09	തിങ്കൾ	ചോതി
24	വൃശ്ചികം 24	ഡിസം 10	ചൊവ്വ	വിശാഖം
25	വൃശ്ചികം 25	ഡിസം 11	ബുധൻ	അതിരം
26	വൃശ്ചികം 26	ഡിസം 12	വ്യാഴം	കിരം
27	വൃശ്ചികം 27	ഡിസം 13	വെള്ളി	പുരം
28	വൃശ്ചികം 28	ഡിസം 14	രവ്വ	അത്തം
29	വൃശ്ചികം 29	ഡിസം 15	അഞ്ചര	ചിത്തം
30	വൃശ്ചികം 30	ഡിസം 16	തിങ്കൾ	ചോതി
31	ധനു 1	ഡിസം 17	ചൊവ്വ	വിശാഖം
32	ധനു 2	ഡിസം 18	ബുധൻ	അതിരം
33	ധനു 3	ഡിസം 19	വ്യാഴം	ഉത്രം
34	ധനു 4	ഡിസം 20	വെള്ളി	അത്തം
35	ധനു 5	ഡിസം 21	രവ്വ	ചിത്തം
36	ധനു 6	ഡിസം 22	അഞ്ചര	ചോതി
37	ധനു 7	ഡിസം 23	തിങ്കൾ	വിശാഖം
38	ധനു 8	ഡിസം 24	ചൊവ്വ	അതിരം
39	ധനു 9	ഡിസം 25	ബുധൻ	ആഴിപ്പുഴ
40	ധനു 10	ഡിസം 26	വ്യാഴം	ഉത്രം
41	ധനു 11	ഡിസം 27	വെള്ളി	പുരം

കേരളപ്രദേശിക സമിതി - 2019 - 21
ബന്ധപ്പെടുക

[illegible]











തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ദേവസ്വം ബോർഡ്
പി.ഡി.മണികണ്ഠേശ്വരം
ശ്രീ മഹാഗണപതി ക്ഷേത്രം
കൊട്ടാരക്കര

**വിനായക ചതുർത്ഥി
ഗണേശോത്സവം**

2019 സെപ്റ്റംബർ 01, 02
(1195 ചിങ്ങം 16, 17) ഞായർ, തിങ്കൾ

സെപ്റ്റംബർ 02
രാത്രി 7.30 മുതൽ

കരുണാഗപ്പള്ളി കോട്ടയ്ക്കുപുറം
പുതുപ്പള്ളി ഇല്ലത്തിൽ
മനു നമ്പൂതിരിയുടെ മകൾ
ദീപ്തന എം. നമ്പൂതിരിയും
ശ്രീനിലയത്തിൽ
സുദർശനന്റെ മകൾ
വൈഗ എസും
അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്ന
നൃത്തസഭ്യ

അവതരണം :
ആദിനാട് ചിദംബരം നൃത്തകലാക്ഷേത്രം
നൃത്തസംവിധാനം :
ആദിനാട് ഓമനക്കുട്ടൻ



കൊല്ലം
പട്ടണം
ആശംസകൾ











ഓം നമഃ ശിവായ നമഃ ഓം നമഃ ശിവായ
 തിരുവനന്തപുരം ജനറൽ
 പി.ഡി. മണികണ്ഠേശ്വരൻ

ശ്രീമഹാഗണപതിക്ഷേത്രം കൊട്ടാരക്കര

ക്ഷേത്ര ഉപദേശകനുമിതിയുടേയും
 കേരള ക്ഷേത്രസംരക്ഷണസമിതിയുടേയും
 സംയുക്താഭിമുഖ്യത്തിൽ

വിനായകചതുർത്ഥി ഗണേശോത്സവം

2018 സെപ്റ്റംബർ 12, 13
 (1194 ചിങ്ങം 27, 28) ബുധൻ, വ്യാഴം

ഗണപുരുഷ, ആനയുടേ, ശിരോക്ഷിവാഭരണപുരുഷ,
 അനന്താനന്ദം, സമാനവിതരണം,
 മഹാഗണപതിയുടെ തിരു: എഴുന്നള്ളത്തും വീക്ഷണം

സെപ്റ്റംബർ 12 രാവിലെ 6 മണി മുതൽ മഹാമൃത്യുഞ്ജയ ഫേറാമം	സെപ്റ്റംബർ 13 ന് രാവിലെ 5.30 ന് അഷ്ടദിവ്യ മഹാഗണപതിഫേറാമം (1008 താളംകൊണ്ടുപാടാൻ) മഹാഗണപതിക്ക് കളഭാഭിഷേകം
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ആറാട്ട് ഘോഷയാത്രയ്ക്ക് ഒരുങ്ങി കൊട്ടാരക്കര





ഓം നമഃശിവായ

തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ദേവസ്വംബോർഡ്

ശ്രീ മഹാദേവർ ക്ഷേത്രം

പടിഞ്ഞാറ്റിൻകര, കൊട്ടാരക്കര

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മിനത്തിലെ ഉത്യാതി

മഹാദേവസ്വം

2018 മാർച്ച് 18 മുതൽ 25 വരെ

1193 മീനം 4 മുതൽ 11 വരെ

തൃക്കാട്

1193 മീനം 4 (മാർച്ച് 18)

തിരുത്താട്ട്

1193 മീനം 11 (മാർച്ച് 25)



SABARIMALA OF WOMEN

ATTUKAL PONGALA

MARCH 02, 2018 (FRIDAY)

PONGALA MAHOTSAVAM 2018 FEBRUARY 22 TO MARCH 03

Highlights of the 10 Days Festival

DAY 1 - FEBRUARY 22, 2018 THURSDAY

5.45pm : Kappukettu & Kudiyiruthu

DAY 3 - FEBRUARY 24, 2018 SATURDAY

8.45am : Beginning of the penance for boys who participate in the Kuthiyottam offering

DAY 9 - MARCH 02, 2018 FRIDAY

10.15am : Lighting of the Pongala Hearths
 2.30pm : Sanctification of Pongala
 7.45pm : Kuthiyottam Chooralkuthu
 11.15pm : The Procession of the Goddess Attukalamma

DAY 10 - MARCH 03, 2018 SATURDAY

9.00pm : Kappu Azhippu & Kudiyilakkal
 12.30 am : Kuruthi Tharppanam (Sacrificial Offering)

SECRETARY, ATTUKAL BHAGAVATHI TEMPLE TRUST

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ഭക്തജനങ്ങളുടെ ശ്രദ്ധയ്ക്ക്

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DhanlaxmiBank

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SCAN QR CODE TO PAY



OR ENTER PAYMENT ADDRESS
tdbkottarakkara@dlb

s/d

അഡ്മിനിസ്ട്രേറ്റീവ് ഓഫീസർ
കുലശേഖരനല്ലൂർ സബ് ഗ്രൂപ്പ്

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<https://www.facebook.com/Kottarakkara.Ganapati/videos/1899549660079788/>
<https://www.facebook.com/Kottarakkara.Ganapati/videos/1899486336752787/>

YouTube Videos:

Kottarakkara Sree Mahaganapathy temple: https://youtu.be/Ep22_OQDbJ0

Kottarakkara Sree Mahaganapathy Kshethram: <https://youtu.be/Q4MdPmovumk>

Kottarakara Ganapathy temple: <https://youtu.be/3tvQ4AN-xl4>

Kottarakkara Sree Mahaganapathy Temple, 2022: <https://youtu.be/9-sa47LuCV0>

Kottarakkara Sree Mahaganapathy temple festival, 2022: https://youtu.be/_YzrAkKUHsw

Kottarakkara Ganapathy Temple festival, 2022: <https://youtu.be/RiUTD8gEyt0>

Kottarakkara Sree Mahaganapathy Temple-most sacred: <https://youtu.be/BpWO2VXZ-Ek>

Gaja Muthachan Krishnankutty: <https://youtu.be/jGNG2cHRQkU>

Kottarakkara Sri Mahaganapathi kshethram: https://youtu.be/jFOTrJU_NRA

Special alankara & mahapooja: <https://fb.watch/fcv4aZMoa7/>

Kottarakkara Sree Mahaganapathy song: <https://youtu.be/bPbHaigAZFY>

Ganesh Stotras & Shlokas:

Ganesh atharvasheersham by Challikere brothers:

<https://youtu.be/m2dPpGzywnQ>

Ganesh atharvasheersham by Shankar Mahadevan:

<https://youtu.be/DAXzF3O2h5Y>

Video:

Ganesha Pancharatnam by M S Subbulakshmi:

<https://youtu.be/KbXZUWW6pzA>

Ganesha Pancharatnam by Bombay sisters:

<https://youtu.be/yUDMITmv6lc>

Video:

Vstapi Ganesham bhajeham:

M S Subbulakshmi:

<https://youtu.be/pMFHfvLiBSc>

K J Yesudas:

<https://youtu.be/BSq0islk3XY>

Ghantasala:

<https://youtu.be/KVhS4hRncxw>

Ganesh Bhujangam:

Video chanting of the Ganesha bhujangam:

Uma Mohan:

<https://youtu.be/5YaGMu0DcgE>

Spiritual mantra:

<https://youtu.be/odxQJWtcsBc>

Link to download Vatapi Ganapathim bhaje –audio---by Ghantasala:

<https://app.box.com/s/99q13ytmqf72u1pj0wxt2xk137slm2ox>

Ganesha Mangalashtakam:

Bangalore sisters:

<https://youtu.be/sHcfUxADr6k>

Kamala Ramani:

https://youtu.be/3ZYWpsz_tVQ

S P Balasubramanyam et al:

<https://youtu.be/FNrWeNF5bW4>

Ganesha mahimna stotram:

Devotional series:

https://youtu.be/_Ay5cOT0gqU

Dr. Kuldeep Kumar Shukla:

<https://youtu.be/BAMAswu2PBs>

Ganesha Ashtottara shata namavali:

Video chanting of this namavali: Geethanjali music:

<https://youtu.be/sz28C8ogvvk>

Ganesh Chaturthi special bhajans in Prasanthinilayam:

https://youtu.be/_wG8krt6ZUc

Ganesh special devotional songs---Puttaparthi: <https://youtu.be/0ukl-D4IG6U>

Ganesh Ashtakam by Sai students: <https://youtu.be/f8D8-VSHV4o>



ॐ सह ना॑ ववतु । सह नौ॑ भुनक्तु । सह वी॒र्यं॑ करवावहै । तेज॒स्विना॒वधी॑तमस्तु मा वि॒द्विषा॑वहै ॥ (3)
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Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar

**Adhi Vinayagar Temple, Koothanur,
Tamil Nadu, India**

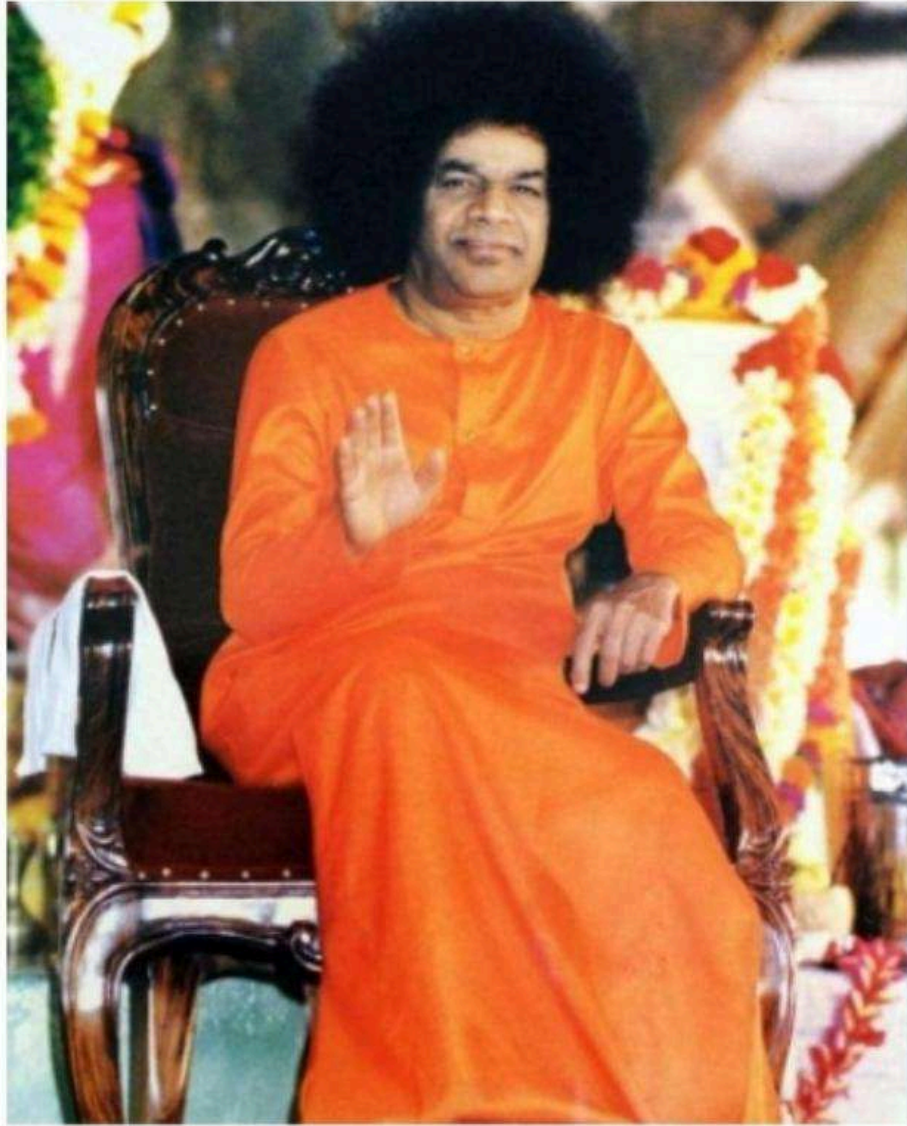


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DEDICATION

**This work is lovingly dedicated at the lotus feet of:
Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba**



**There is only ONE caste -The Caste of Humanity
There is only ONE religion –The Religion of Love
There is only ONE language –The Language of the Heart
There is only ONE God –He is Omnipresent**

.....Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba

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PREFACE



This free ebook gives briefly info about: “ **Adhi Vinayagar Temple, Koothanur, Tamil Nadu, India**”.

Details of the Temple location, phone number and how to reach there, Temple History, miracles and legends, architecture, Timings, festivals, deities, poojas, rituals and special poojas, speciality of this temple where Lord Ganesha has a human face, where to stay - accommodation, nearby attractions, contact info, info for devotees, facilities for devotees, Do's and Don'ts, guidelines for devotees, Tips for Visitors, donation info, similar places, nearby places, nearby budget hotels and star hotels, comments by visitors,..etc are given. This is one of the 7 special places to give tarpanam for departed ancestors for attaining Moksha..legend of Lord Ram offering Pinda to king Dasarath..visit of Kanchi Parammacharya to the shrine of this temple..etc are given.

Links to YouTube Videos give videos relating to the temple, its history, festivals, travel vlogs,,.....etc.

Acknowledgements:

Many of my friends and relatives have actively encouraged me in my attempt to compile this free ebook. I sincerely thank them for their support.

My wife Kala has always encouraged and supported me in all my literary works, sacrificing much of her time. I express my deep appreciation to her.

I have drawn from many references, and also from YouTube as mentioned in the text.

Finally, I express my immense gratitude to Sri Sathya Sai Baba for His Grace and blessings, prompting me to initiate, continue and complete this work.

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar,
May 17, 2025
Email: tmuliya@rediffmail.com

Ref: Wikipedia

Adhi Vinayagar Temple, Koothanur

Adi Vinayaka (Sanskrit: आदि विनायक, IAST: *Ādi Vināyaka*, also known as **Nara Mukha Vinayaka**)^[1] is a form of the Hindu deity Ganesha (Vinayaka), which portrays Ganesha with a human head, prior to his decapitation by his father, Shiva. This form of Ganesha is rarely worshipped, with only a few dedicated shrines, such as the one near [Koothanur](#), [Tamil Nadu](#).

Etymology

Adi Vinayaka derives from the word *ādi*, literally meaning "first" or "pre-eminent", while *Vinayaka* is another name of the deity.

Nara Mukha Vinayaka derives from the words *nara* ("human") and *mukha* ("face"). "Vinayaka" is a common name for the deity Ganesha.

Legend

According to Hindu mythology, the goddess Parvati, the consort of Shiva, created Ganesha in a wholly human form to guard her while she bathed. When Shiva sought to see his consort, Ganesha refused to allow him to pass. Enraged, Shiva engaged in battle against Ganesha, ultimately beheading him with his trishula. When Parvati learnt of what had transpired, she threatened to disrupt the peace of the three worlds if her son were not restored to life. Shiva sent a number of divinities to procure the head of the first being they came across in the northern region, which happened to be an elephant. With the head of the elephant, Shiva revived Ganesha.

Ref: ChatGPT - AI

Adhi Vinayagar Temple, Koothanur

1. Temple Location, Map, Phone Number & How to Reach

Temple Name: Adhi Vinayagar Temple (also known as Adhi Ganapathi Temple)

Location: Koothanur, Tiruvarur District, Tamil Nadu, India – 610101

Google Maps: Search for “Adhi Vinayagar Temple, Koothanur”

Phone Number: Often managed by nearby temples or local trusts. You may contact the Koothanur Saraswathi Temple Office nearby for help: +91-4366-267724

Nearest Towns: Nannilam (8 km), Thiruvarur (20 km), Kumbakonam (30 km)

Nearest Railway Station: Nannilam or Thiruvavarur Junction

Nearest Airport: Tiruchirapalli (approx. 120 km)

2. Temple History, Miracles, and Legends

Historical Background:

Adhi Vinayagar Temple is revered as the birthplace or first manifestation of Lord Vinayaka (Ganesha), where he emerged from the divine union of Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati, symbolizing the origin of Ganesha himself. Hence the name "Adhi" Vinayagar (Adhi = primordial/first).

Legends:

One key legend is that Goddess Parvati created Ganesha here from sandal paste before he was assigned to guard her while she bathed. Later, the incident of Lord Shiva beheading Ganesha and replacing his head with an elephant's happened at this very spot, making it a sacred origin site.

Miracles:

Devotees believe prayers at this temple can:

Remove obstacles in life

Bless childless couples with children

Improve education and career

Prevent untimely deaths and accidents

3. Temple Architecture

Traditional Dravidian architecture

Modest in size but spiritually significant

Features a unique sanctum for Adhi Vinayaka, with a childlike face

Separate shrines for Lord Shiva, Goddess Parvati, and other deities nearby

4. Temple Timings

Morning: 6:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Evening: 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM

(Note: Timings may change during festivals and special days)

5. Festivals

Vinayaka Chaturthi – Grand celebration with thousands of devotees

Sankatahara Chaturthi – Monthly pooja for obstacle removal

Tamil New Year & Pongal – Celebrated with rituals and temple procession

6. Deities

Main Deity: Adhi Vinayagar (Ganesha)

Other Deities:

Lord Shiva (as Sundareswarar)

Goddess Parvati (as Meenakshi)

Lord Muruga, Navagrahas, and others

7. Poojas, Rituals & Special Poojas

Daily Poojas:

Kalasanthi (Morning)

Uchikala (Midday)

Sayaraksha (Evening)

Special Poojas:

Ganapathi Homam

108 Coconut Break Pooja

Archana with 108 names

Modaka offering and butter lamp rituals

8. Temple Speciality

Birthplace of Lord Ganesha – According to local tradition

No 'Moolavar' idol anywhere else matches this deity's childlike form

Prayers here are said to remove ancestral curses (Pitru dosha) and astrological problems

9. Where to Stay – Accommodation

Nearby Budget Hotels:

Hotel Metro Inn, Thiruvavur

Sri Maruthi Lodge, Nannilam

Sri Kumaran Residency, Kumbakonam

Nearby Star Hotels:

Indeco Hotels, Swamimalai

Quality Inn Viha, Kumbakonam

Hotel Raya's, Kumbakonam

10. Nearby Attractions

Koothanur Maha Saraswathi Temple – 0.5 km – the only temple for Saraswathi in Tamil Nadu

Thiruvavur Thyagaraja Temple – 20 km – massive Shiva temple

Kumbakonam Temples – Famous for Navagraha and Mahamaham temples

Thirunallar Shani Temple – Around 50 km

11. Contact Info

Temple Authority: Managed by HR&CE Dept., Tamil Nadu

Saraswathi Temple Office (Nearby): +91-4366-267724

12. Info & Facilities for Devotees

Facilities Available:

Free vehicle parking nearby

Drinking water

Rest areas

Nearby prasadam stalls

Nearby shops for pooja items

Info for Devotees:

Special days see large crowds – plan accordingly

Prasadam is usually Modakam and Puliyodarai (tamarind rice)

13. Do's and Don'ts

Do's:

Maintain silence and cleanliness

Dress modestly and traditionally

Offer coconut, modakam, and betel leaves

Don'ts:

Avoid bringing non-vegetarian food

Do not wear footwear inside temple premises

Photography may be restricted near sanctum

14. Guidelines for Devotees

Visit early in the morning for peaceful darshan

During festivals, reach early to avoid queues

Elderly devotees may find afternoons more relaxed

Participate in Ganapathi Homam if possible (book in advance)

15. Tips for Visitors

Combine your visit with Koothanur Saraswathi Temple (very close)

Best months: August–February

Carry cash – many pooja tickets and offerings are not digital

Avoid peak summer (March–May) for comfort

16. Donation Info

In-person donations at temple hundi or archakar

HR&CE-managed – receipts are given for major donations

For large donations or poojas, contact the temple office

17. Similar Places

Pillayarpatti Karpaga Vinayagar Temple

Thiruvanchuzhi Vellai Pillayar Temple

Ucchi Pillayar Temple, Trichy

Siddhi Vinayak Temple, Mumbai (for spiritual comparison)

18. Visitor Comments

“A deeply spiritual place with a rare energy.”

“One of the oldest Ganesha shrines – you feel the power here.”

“Small but very special – worth the detour.”

“Don't miss the nearby Saraswathi temple.”

19. Additional Info

Great place for educational and spiritual seekers

Ideal for a family trip combining temple visits and local culture

Local guides and shops offer stories and spiritual souvenirs

Ref: hubpages.com

Adi Vinayagar or Naramukha Ganapathi temple of Thilatharpanpuri at Koothanur

By Dr. A.K. Chatterjee, March 30, 2023



"Naramukha Ganapathi" of Koothanur, Tamilnadu

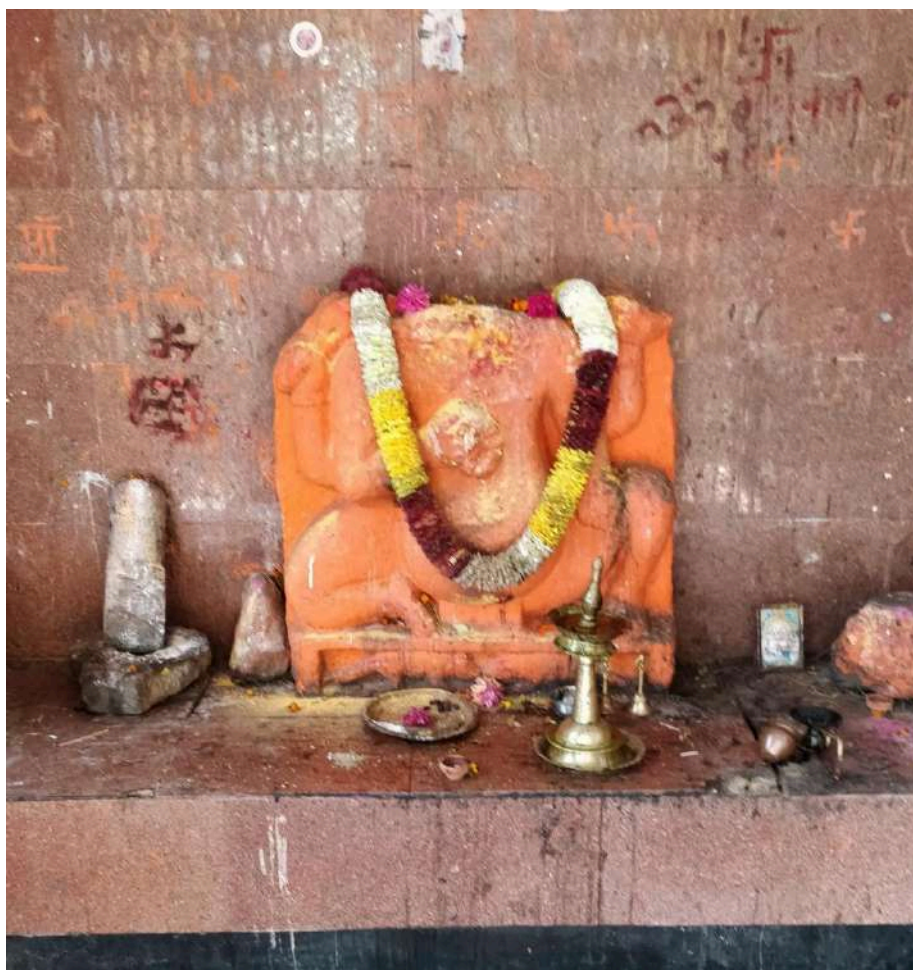
Introduction

The story of the decapitation of Lord Ganesha by Lord Shiva (in majority of mythological tales) or Shani Deva (in few stories, especially in Bengal) and subsequent replacement of the decapitated head with a head of a white elephant is widely known.

In all except two temples dedicated to Lord Ganesha he is seen with the elephant head. The two exceptions are the Adi Vinayagar or Naramukha Ganesha temple in Thilatharpanpuri at Sethalapathi near Koothanur, Thiruvavur district of Tamilnadu where Ganesha is present with a human face, and the other being the "Munkatia Ganesha" temple of Rudranath district of Uttarakhand, where Lord Ganesha is present without a head. In this article, we'll have a virtual tour of the Adhi Vinayagar or Naramukha Ganesha temple of Koothanur.



Lord Ganesha with his two wives - Siddhi and Riddhi; Moreshwar, Maharashtra



"Munkatia Ganesha" or the Headless Ganesha, Rudraprayag district, Uttarakhand

Location

The temple of Naramukha Ganesha is situated inside the temple complex of Thilatharpanpuri in a rural environment about 5 km from Koothanur, a small temple town in Thiruvavarur district of Tamil Nadu.

Koothanur is famous for four temples :

1. Adhi Vinayagar or Naramukha Ganesha temple.
2. Thilatharpanapuri (Muktheeswarar temple) which houses Lord Shiva (as Muktheshwarar, the Lord who bestows salvation) and Parvati (as Goddess Swarnavalli Amman).
3. Maha Saraswati temple (the only Saraswati temple of Tamil Nadu).
4. Lalithamba temple where sage Agastya was supposed to pen the famous Lalitha Stotra. It is a Shakti Pitha, a centre of Shaktism or Shakti Worshipping Cult.



Naramukha Ganesha temple; Koothanur



Entrance of the Mukteswarar temple; Thilatharpanpuri, Koothanur



Mukteswarar temple; Thilatharpanpuri, Koothanur



Saraswati temple; Koothanur.



Lalithambai temple, Thirumeyachur

The temple

As already said, The temple of Naramukha Ganesha is situated inside the temple complex of Thilatharpanpuri.

The temple is a modest one, with a rectangular Mandapa (Hall) in front and a square sanctum behind, housing the Vighraha (idol) of Lord Ganesha with a human head.



Side view of the Naramukha Ganesha temple of Koothanur



Naramukha Ganesha temple of Koothanur before sunrise



The Mandapa or Hall

It is a flat-roofed rectangular structure without any walls, but has 6+6+2+2 square pillars on 4 sides.

Interestingly, all the pillars have a stucco Vighraha of Lord Ganesha, each one is unique and different from others.

These forms of Lord Ganesha includes 4-armed, 6-armed, 8-armed, 10-armed and 16-armed forms.

He is depicted with a single elephant-head in all except in one, where he has 4 elephant heads.

Ganesha is seen sitting, standing and dancing postures, mostly alone but in 2 with his wife on his lap.

The hall has at its distal end a square "Yajna Vedi", the place of performing "Yajna" (worshipping by lighting a fire).



The "Mandapa" of the temple with pillars



"Mandapa" of the temple with pillars



The "Yajna Bedi" or the Fire Alter in the far end of the Mandapa

Ganesha's wife

In two cases here in the Naramukha Ganesha temple, Lord Ganesha is seen with his wife who is sitting on his left lap.

In the Puranas, we generally have the names of two wives of Lord Ganesha - Siddhi and Riddhi. And it is a rule that Siddhi will be on the right side of Lord Ganesha and Riddhi on the left.

But this single wife makes the matter complicated. It cannot be said with confidence who she is - Riddhi (as she is on the left side) or Siddhi (though normally she stays on Ganesha's right side).



Lord Ganesha with his wives - Siddhi on right and Riddhi on left; Moreshwar temple; Maharashtra



4-armed Ganesha with wife; Koothanur



6-armed Ganesha with wife; Koothanur



10-armed Ganesha with wife; Koothanur

Vahana (vehicle) of Lord Ganesha

Normally, Ganesha is accompanied by a mouse, who is his Vahana.

Ganesha has other Vahanas too. In Maharashtra, the Moreshwar Ganesha is shown to have the "More" (Mayur) or the pea-cock.

Here, we see the mouse in one of the pillars, and one Ganesha (the 4-headed one) rides a Lion.

In others, Ganesha is without his Vahana.



Ganesha on his usual Vahana the Mouse; Koothanur

The Sanctum

The square sanctum has a single west facing door, guarded by two big statues of "Dwarapalas" (Gate keepers).

The roof of the sanctum is a tall Shikhara decorated with many statues including that of Ganesha, but none with a human head.

Inside the sanctum on the altar is the all important Vighraha of the Lord, and he has a young boy's face.

At the time of the present author's visit, the Vighraha is covered with dress material and a big garland, and only the right hand is seen in the blessing posture.



The decorated tower upon the sanctum



The entrance of the sanctum covered by a curtain with a picture of the Ganesha with a human head



This photo of Naramukha Ganesha is shot from a printed picture displayed outside, as photography of the main Vighraha (idol) is not allowed.

Conclusion

This is the only temple where people can see Lord Ganesha with a human head, so its importance is immense to say the least.

*** All photos are shot by the author.

*** Special point to mention:

The photos of Naramukha Ganesha presented here are shot from a printed picture of the Lord displayed outside, as photography of the main Vighraha (idol) is strictly not allowed.

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Ref: tripgurugo.com

Adhi Vinayaka Temple: Lord Ganesha with a Human Head

By Manoj Kumar, December 2024

Overview

Hello! My name is Manoj Kumar and I have always tried to find such places which make us feel close to our culture. Out of all the places that I have visited, the Adhi Vinayaka Temple in Thiruvavur, Tamil Nadu is one of the most impressive ones.

This temple is unique in a way that the main idol of Lord Ganesha does not have an elephant head but a human head. This is called Narmukh Vinayaka and this form is quite famous and holds a lot of historical importance. Many think that this is the representation of Ganesha before he got his elephant head. It is a common sight to see people, especially Hindus, and tourists from other parts of the world coming here to witness this unique aspect of the Hindu God.

I was very much impressed with the serenity and the oneness that I experienced when I went to this temple. The environment and the temple itself was very peaceful and I got a lot of memories from it. In this post, I will discuss the history of the temple, what makes the human headed Ganesha so special, and what rituals are followed here.

Adhi Vinayaka Temple's History

The Adhi Vinayaka Temple in Thilatharpanapuri near Koothanur is famous for having a Ganesha idol with a human face which is popularly known as Nara Mukha Vinayaka. It is considered to have been built in the 7th century and has a lot of religious importance.

It is said that Lord Yama performed the shraddha here and thus the place is known as Thila Tharpanapuri which means the city of performing shraddha. This form of Ganesha is quite

unusual as here the face of the god is human-like which was a common form of worship before the elephant-faced form became famous.

Adhi Vinayaka Temple is associated with mythology and history and has several interesting legends. It represents the original form of Lord Ganesha before he was turned into the god with the elephant head that people believe in nowadays. For example, one of the most important legends associated with the temple underlines how Ganesha in the human form represents such virtues as courage, devotion, and loyalty – the virtues that are still important today. Moreover, this temple also depicts the story of Ganesha in his first avatar before he got his elephant head which in turn enhances the reader's understanding of the god. Now let's explore the myth:

The Creation of Ganesha by Goddess Parvati



The mother goddess Parvati once asked someone to take care of her while she was bathing. From her labor and filth, she created a kid and gave him life. The child's devoted guardian, Lord Ganesha, was born with a human head because he had none other than a human being as his caretaker.

The Ganesha with the Human Head

This form also brings Ganesha to depict our human memory qualities such principles as courage, passion, should, and endeavor faithfulness. to attain in our when the day we look at life this form. This is because most temple rituals emphasize such qualities and make people think about their growth and relationship with such values.

The Origin of Ganesha's Elephant Head

The Lord wasn't aware that the person in front of him was his own son and got angry one day when Ganesha interrupted him. In a fit of rage, Shiva chopped off Ganesha's head. Shiva then replaced Ganesha's head with an elephant's one after he realized his mistake. This shift is a concept of change and the ability to move forward in life.

It means that even if something doesn't work out for us in our lives we can still find hope and strength from the story of Ganesha's transformation.

What Makes the Idol at Adhi Vinayaka Temple Special?

The Ganesha statue at this temple is a work of art. This statue has historical significance since it is uncommon to find a representation of Ganesha with a human head. Furthermore, the craftsmanship is very amazing, exhibiting exquisite intricacies and outstanding creativity. check out [Hoysala Temples](#) known for their intricate craftsmanship. One of the highlights of the temple is its unique idol of Ganesha. Let me explain why this statue stands out:

Information About the Star

- **Material Used:** Basalt stone is used to make the idol. The statue will remain in excellent shape for many years thanks to this sturdy and polished stone.
- **Human Features:** The idol's face has a sweet smile, kind eyes, and a serene, compassionate expression. It seems calm and inviting because of these human-like characteristics.
- **Fine Craftsmanship:** The statue's intricacies demonstrate the artisans' ability. It appears both celestial and human due to its flawless carving and ideal proportions.



This idol is a work of art that encourages dedication and introspection in addition to being a place of worship.

The Importance of Spirituality

Ganesha's human-headed appearance has profound significance and imparts valuable teachings.

Instructing Human Values:

The human form of the head of Ganesha depicts qualities that are essential for the maintenance of peace within society as well as within an individual and these include fearlessness, devotion, and dedication. It is common for the temple ceremonies to focus on such principles and make the people reflect on their actions and strive to improve

themselves. This is where the temple legend is helpful as it enhances this symbolism by emphasizing the relevance of these attributes in Ganesha's life. This is because it helps us understand the fact that his form, which has a human head, teaches us the need to practice these virtues in our day to day life. This has made devotees something to think about regarding their actions.

Linking Up with Ganesha's Heritage:

This statue is a reminder to the devotees of Ganesha as to what the god actually looked like and also shows how divine beings can be portrayed as very much a part of human life.

An Indication of Change:

The tale of Ganesha's metamorphosis into an elephant-headed god encourages us to embrace change and grow from setbacks. This moving tale inspires many people to confront their challenges.

You can also visit the [Museum of Illusions in Delhi](#) to explore creativity and cultural experiences.

Customs & Traditions

The Adhi Vinayaka Temple is renowned for its deep rituals that emphasize spiritual development, healing, and family.

- **Pitra Dosh Puja:** This ritual aims to resolve issues related to ancestors, bringing peace and harmony to families.
- **Ancestor Worship:** In Ancestor Worship, devotees present rice balls, known as pindas, light lights, and pray for their ancestors. It is said that these rites provide solace and benefits to the souls of the deceased.
- **Emotional Healing:** Visitors can overcome bereavement, resolve emotional issues, and develop spiritually with the support of special prayers and ceremonies.



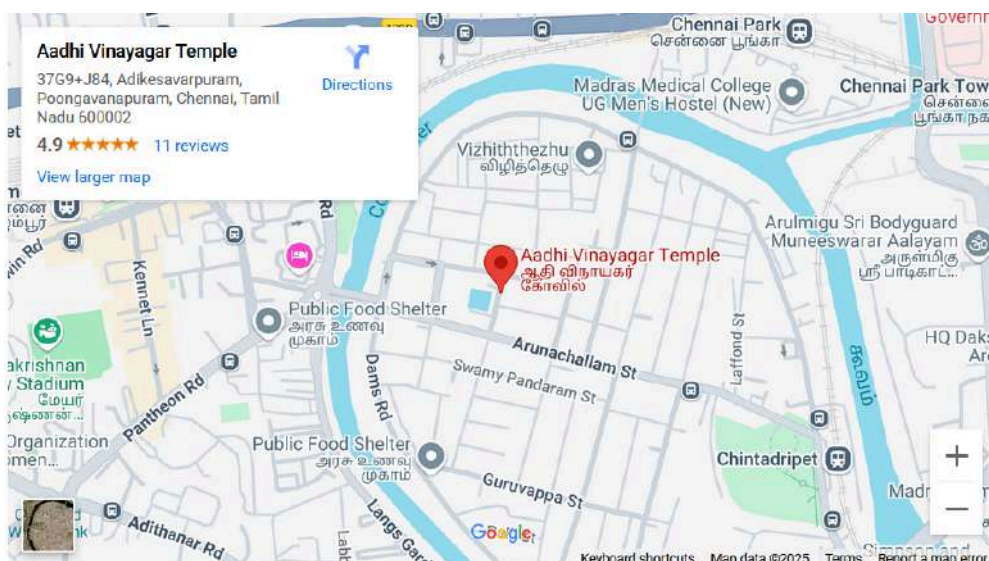
Ritual/Activity	Purpose/Meaning	
Pitra Dosh Puja		Resolves ancestral issues, promoting family peace.
Ancestor Worship	Seeks blessings from ancestors for familial harmony.	
Special Ceremonies	Highlights courage, loyalty, and devotion.	
Emotional Healing	Aids in resolving inner conflicts and grief.	

These rituals make the temple a beacon of hope and spiritual renewal.

Adhi Vinayaka Temple Visitation Instructions

The temple is very easily approachable by the devotees and tourists. As for the visitors, it is better to find out the exact time of visiting which is usually rather early in the morning and lasts until the evening. Some rules like being quiet and not exposing much skin help to keep the environment spiritual. This means that one should dress in traditional or at least conservative clothes when in the temple. Some of the things you can offer include; coconuts, fruits, flowers, and betel leaves to Lord Ganesha. It is advisable to speak in a low voice and switch off the cell phone when in the temple compound.

Directions – From Chennai:



Tiruvavur is around 6–7 hours away by bus or train. You may then take a taxi or a local bus to the temple.

How to Reach Delhi to Adhi Vinayaka Temple?

To visit the Adhi Vinayaka Temple in Tamil Nadu from Delhi, here's a step-by-step guide:

Mode of Transport	Steps	Approx. Time
By Air	Fly from Delhi (Indira Gandhi International Airport) to Chennai (Chennai International Airport). Then, hire a cab or take a train to Tiruvavur.	3 hours (flight) + 6–7 hours (drive/train)
By Train	Take a direct train from Delhi to Chennai, then board another train or bus to Tiruvavur.	35–40 hours (Delhi to Chennai) + 6–7 hours (Tiruvavur)
By Road	Drive from Delhi to Tiruvavur via Chennai, covering approximately 2,300 km. Break the journey into manageable stops for rest.	40–45 hours (total)
From Tiruvavur to Temple	Hire a local cab or take a bus to the Adhi Vinayaka Temple, which is a short drive away.	20–30 minutes

Travel Tips

- Book tickets early for flights or trains, especially during festive seasons.
- The best time to visit the temple is early morning or late evening for a peaceful experience.
- Plan your route based on your preferred mode of travel and available time.

Nearby Location:

The Adhi Vinayaka Temple commonly known as Nara Mukha Vinayaka Temple is situated near Koothanur in Thiruvavarur district of Tamil Nadu. It is famous for having a Ganesha Thilatharpanapuri statue which is a 2. human 6 face. km The temple Koothanur is near Poonthottam on the Mayavaram – Tiruvavarur Road and the nearest railway station is at Poonthottam.



Nearby temples include:

- **Muktheeswarar Temple (Thilatharpanapuri):** Dedicated to Lord Shiva and rituals for ancestors.
- **Maha Saraswati Temple (Koothanur):** Famous for blessings in education and wisdom.
- **Lalithambigai Temple (Thirumeeyachur):** A significant Shakti Peetha.

These temples enhance the spiritual charm of the Thiruvavarur region. Thilatharpanapuri, a well-known site for ancestor-honoring ceremonies, is adjacent to the temple. You can also explore the magnificent [Akshardham Temple in Delhi](#) or learn about historical sites like the [Hoysala Temples](#).

Ideal Time to Visit:

It is recommended to visit the Adhi Vinayaka Temple in the winter Thiruvavarur season particularly from November to February. The weather is most suitable for temple visiting and touring the vicinity as the weather is not very hot.

Special Occasions to Consider:

- **Ganesh Chaturthi (August/September):** A grand celebration dedicated to Lord Ganesha, offering a spiritually vibrant experience.
- **Panguni Uthiram (March/April):** A significant festival celebrated in Tamil Nadu, often marked with special rituals.

It is advisable to avoid visiting the temple during the peak summer months of March to June as the heat can be very harsh. The best time to visit the temple is either early in the morning or late in the evening when there are relatively few people. Please find the temple's timing as

it opens from 6 AM to 12 PM and 4 PM to 8 PM. The timings may also change so it is advisable to confirm with the local people.

Time	Details
Morning/Evening	Enjoy a peaceful and serene atmosphere.
Festivals	Visit during Vinayaka Chaturthi or Sankata Hara Chaturthi for lively celebrations.

The tranquil atmosphere of the temple is most enjoyable in the early morning or late evening. The temple has even more enthusiasm and vitality during festivals like Vinayaka Chaturthi and Sankata Hara Chaturthi.

Reasons to Go

There is a great place to find one of the rarest forms of Lord Ganesha and that is the Adhi Vinayaka Temple. It also offers a chance for psychological healing, self-actualization, and closer identification with the Hindu pantheon.

This temple is a must-visit if you are in search of ideas, serenity, or a unique spiritual experience. The narrative of Ganesha's form with the human face may encourage people to challenge themselves and grow spiritually which is the reason to visit this temple. There is no reason to miss the chance to visit this incredible temple and learn more about the amazing story behind it. It is not only to witness the unique shape of Lord Ganesha but also to find mental solace and pay respect to the ancestors. This is a place where history, myth, and faith converge and therefore should not be missed by those who wish to explore India's spiritual heritage.

Link to a video on this Temple:

<https://youtu.be/lwpFSv1u98M>

FAQs

Can you take photographs inside the temple?	-
In the temple, photography is not allowed as a sign of respect for the place.	

What is the Adi Vinayak Temple, and where is it located?

-

The Adi Vinayak Temple, also known as Narmukh Vinayak Temple, is a unique Hindu temple located in Tiruvarur, Tamil Nadu, India, dedicated to Lord Ganesha with a human face.

Why is it called 'Nara Mukha Vinayaka'?

-

The name "Nara Mukha Vinayaka" sounds like this because it represents the Lord Ganesh who has a human face and is thus different from the normal elephant-headed form.

What is the origin story of the Adhi Vinayak Temple?

-

As the legend goes, Mother Parvati created Ganapati with the help of a human head which she derived from her sweat and dirt. Later on, he evolved into an elephant-headed Ganesha.

How to reach the Adhi Vinayak Temple in Tiruvarur?

-

To get to Chennai, it will take you about 6 to 7 hours using a bus or train from Tiruvarur. Once in Tiruvarur, you can get to the temple using a cab or a bus.

What does Thilatharpanpuri mean?

-

It means "paying homage to the ancestors by offering them sesame" and depicts the need for paying tribute to our ancestors.

Is there a specific time when the temple is crowded?

-

It is open all year round but it may be crowded especially during the Hindu festivals and other auspicious days.

What makes the Adhi Vinayaka Temple special?

-

The main difference is that there is a human form of Ganesha's idol which is his original form, which makes the temple unique.

Are there any more temples in the area?

Yes, there is a temple of Lord Shiva known as Mukteshwar Temple in close proximity and it also enhances the religious significance.

References:

1. Outlook Traveller. (n.d.). *Have You Visited the Human-Faced Ganesh Temple in Koothanur?* Retrieved from <https://www.outlooktraveller.com/experiences/heritage/have-you-visited-the-human-faced-ganesh-temple-in-koothanur>
2. News Bharati. (2022, August 31). *Adhi Vinayak Temple: One of the Only Lord Ganesha Shrines in Human Form.* Retrieved from <https://www.news Bharati.com/Encyc/2022/8/31/Adhi-Vinayak-temple-one-of-the-only-Lord-Ganesha-shrines-in-human-form.html>

Ref: hindutourism.com

Thilatharpanapuri or Adhi Vinayagar Temple

Swarnavalli sametha Muktheeswarar temple is located at Thilatharpanapuri 2.6 km from Koothanur. Koothanur is near Poonthottam which is on Mayavaram – Tiruvarur Road. The nearest railway station is at Poonthottam. The main deities here are Swarnavalli Thayar and Mukthiswarar. The name Thilatharpanapuri comes from two words thil meaning Gingely and tharpana is the Hindu ritual of performing pitru karmas (ritual of paying tribute to ancestors) to ones ancestors. It is also known as Sethalapathy.

There are 7 sthalams for performing these rituals

viz. Kasi, Rameswaram, Srivanchiyam, Thiruvenkadu, Gaya, Thriveni Sangamam & Thilatharpanapuri.

What is Pitru dosha?

Pitru dosham can occur when the souls of our ancestors and departed forefathers do not get peace due to any of the following reasons, when shraddham (ritual of paying tribute to ancestors) is not performed.

- Bad deeds while they were alive

- Bad deeds of the children of the departed
- Lack of fulfillment of desires

How to get rid of Pitru dosha?

Simple ways to get rid of Pitru Dosha (Ancestral sin) is to feed the needy on Amavasya day (New Moon day) and perform the tharpanam (ritual of paying tribute to ancestors) regularly. By satisfying the departed souls of our ancestors, we can have their blessing for a happy and peaceful life.

Story of Rama offering tarpanam for Dasaratha

Rama performed tharpanam (ritual of paying tribute to ancestors) for Dasaratha at various places by placing four pindams (rice balls). However, to his dismay the pindams would turn into worms each time he performed the ritual. A worried Rama prayed to Lord Shiva, who advises Rama to go to mantharavanam (mantharam is the flower of the coral tree, one of the five special trees of heaven) and offer his prayers to Him (shiva) there. He was instructed to take bath in the Arasalar river near there, before performing the Pitru Tharpanam. Rama did as instructed. The four pindams that until now were turning into worms at other places, to his amazement, became four Lingams. Dasaratha Maharaja thus attained mukthi (salvation) and hence the name of the deity here is Mukthiswarar. Since then, the locals believe that that performing the Pitru Tharpanam here absolves you of all your Pitru Sabams (ancestral curse) and Pitru Doshams (ancestral sins). In the outer praharam (circumambulatory path) you can see the idol of Rama performing the tharpanam and also the four lingams known as Pitru Lingams.

This place is considered equivalent to Kasi or Rameswaram. Performing tharpanam here on Amavasya day is considered special. This is a Mukthikshetram. Like Srivanchiyam, it is believed that the sinner will not be able to visit this temple and a planned visit to this temple is not possible.



The shrine for Adhi Vinayakar (also known as Nara mukha vinayakar) is just outside the main temple. Here you can see Ganesha with a human head and hence the Naramukha vinayagar. This place is also known as Sithalapathi. The story of Shiva beheading Naramukha Vinayaka who was created by Parvati and then replacing the head with an elephant head is well known. What is less known is, Shiva had instructed his troops to fetch the head of anyone found sleeping with his head placed towards North. They found this elephant sleeping with its head towards North. This is probably one of the reasons why we are forbidden from sleeping with our head pointing towards North. Shiva named the boy Ganapati – meaning commander of his troops and granted a boon that Ganapati shall be worshipped by everybody before starting anything new.

Boarding & Lodging

Have your travel base as Tiruvarur, Mayiladuthurai or Kumbakonam. If you don't mind putting up with little discomfort and are a seasoned traveller there is a Sankara Mutt in Koothanur where you can spend the night.

Temples Nearby

The Goddess is Swarnavalli thayar, which is another name for Lakshmi. Kanakadhara stotram was composed here. All the three forms of Shakthi viz Lakshmi (Swarnavalli) at Thilatharpanapuri, Durga (Lalithambigai) at Thirumeyachur and Saraswathi at Koothanur are present nearby.

Seshapureswarar Temple at Thirupamburam is also close to this temple.

Temple Timings

- 6AM to 12 Noon
- 4 Pm to 9 PM

Ref: newsbharati.com

Adhi Vinayak temple, one of the only Lord Ganesha shrines in human form

Lord Ganesha is always worshipped as the 'Gajmukh' (having an elephant head) and when we imagine Him, we always do so by picturing him in that form. In every idol and temple, Lord Ganesha has the face of an elephant. But there does exist one unique temple where Ganesha is worshipped with a human face or the Nara Mukha Vinayaka, in Tamil Nadu.



This rare temple is located in the Muktheeswarar Temple near Thilatharpanapuri in Tamil Nadu. It is known as Adhi Vinayaka temple. Because of His human face, this Adhi Vinayaka's divine form is also known as Nara Mukha Vinayaka. This was Lord Ganesha's divine form before he became the Gajanana or the elephant-faced deity Lord Ganesha

Legend of Lord Rama offering Pinda to king Dasarath

Legend | The legend associated with this says, Lord Rama was trying to perform the last rites for King Dasarath. But every time he prayed, the four rice balls (called as Pindam) that he kept in front of him, turned into worms. Distressed, he prayed to Lord Shiva, who advised Rama to go to Mantharavanam, which was the prior name of this place, and offer his prayers there. Lord Ram visited this temple and performed Shiv puja for the salvation of Dasarath's soul, to his surprise, the four pindams became four Lingams. These Lingams are enshrined here in Muktheeswarar Temple, which is near Adi Vinayak Temple.

To this day, devotees visit this temple to offer prayers to get rid of 'pitr dosh'. The name Thilatharpanapuri comes from two words - 'thil' meaning gingely and 'tharpana' is the Hindu ritual of performing 'pithru karmas' to ancestors.

The 5-foot-tall majestic deity of the temple – Nandrudayan Vinayaka adorning a Naghabharanam around his waist, has a Naganandhi facing him at the Eastern entrance of the temple. The 7th Century Tamil savant Sambandar had in one of his pathikams praised the presiding deity of the temple thereby indicating that this is one of the oldest temples in Sirapalli or Tiruchi.

The brilliantly sculptured granite idol of **Lord Ganesh** is truly captivating. He can be seen holding the axe, symbolising the destruction of all desires, a rope to indicate his willingness to rescue anyone from the mire of vasanas, the modaka representing the joyous reward of spiritual life, and the lotus symbolising that all can achieve the supreme state of self-realisation.

Inside the small shrine in the temple - visit of Kanchi Paramacharya

The belly of Lord Ganesha conveys the idea that a Man of Perfection can consume and digest whatever experience he undergoes. The tiny rat which is seated in front of the Lord amidst a rich collection of food is to indicate that a perfect man – like the rat, will have total control over his desires.

Inside the small shrine, there are idols of Adi Sankara, Sage Veda Vyasa, Goddess Gayatri, Sadasiva Brahmendra and Saint Pattinathar. According to Sage Ramarathinam, the trustee of the temple, Kanchi Paramacharya used to pray at the Thayumanavar and Uchipillayar temples on the fort. When he visited the temple about 60 years ago, he suggested the rendering of Vedas in the temple everyday it is being followed, the reciting done by scholars. Pujas are performed for Adi Vinayagar on Thursdays.

The story of Lord Shiva beheading Naramukha Vinayaka who was created by Parvati and then replacing the head with an elephant head is known to most. But what a lot of people don't know is that Lord Shiva had instructed his troops to bring the head of anyone found sleeping with his head placed towards North. The troop found an elephant sleeping with its head towards North. Lord Shiva named the boy Ganapati – meaning commander of his troops. He granted a boon that Ganapati shall be worshipped by everybody before starting anything new.

It is said that Maha Guru Agasthya worships the Adi Vinayaka on every Sankathara Chathurthi day. It is also believed that worshipping Lord Ganesha here brings peace in family relations; and with blessings of Vinayaka, the memory of children is bettered.

YouTube Videos

Adhi Vinayagar Temple History - RTV (4 min):

https://youtu.be/i_GAOAVDKec?si=TQ9ZtdWGHmcdaZPT

Muktheeswarar temple - sethalapathy - India temple tour (5 min):

<https://youtu.be/7uwBmuNi9nQ?si=KKNeLd2fVPjAwTn8>

Adhi Vinayagar- Thiruvavarur (4 min):

<https://youtu.be/0L-j1WwRg4A?si=s9M4QoHCKXNUwsSz>

Adhi Vinayagar- Britain Tamil Bhakti (51 min):

<https://youtu.be/P8udd3z-ckM?si=-3jloRFdLCCmINgy>

Adhi Vinayagar- shorts video (1 min):

<https://youtu.be/lfbL-25X9Qg?si=l1iec40kBAkfXPyF>

Adhi Vinayagar- Koothanur (1 min):

<https://youtu.be/UPFZ1hZWZ7k?si=xFCWs8hBeFdZQUFp>

Adhi Vinayagar- with human face (3 min):

https://youtu.be/AyEFCnTgyzg?si=d640nzGi_zL_kQne

Adhi Vinayagar - Thiruvavarur to Thilatharpanpuri - ANS 24×7 Tamil (4 min):

<https://youtu.be/1P-Mdmh2X-I?si=9lydiVtar6nQQRUU>

Adhi Vinayagar Temple (8 min):

https://youtu.be/BCl4_qVq_IA?si=QZ8lz7QStBew-mTq

Adhi Vinayagar Temple - Kasi in Tamil Nadu (4 min):

https://youtu.be/b6TLXdcIM7s?si=haSARGtGuibvc_MC

Muktheeswarar and Adhi Vinayagar Temple (4 min):

<https://youtu.be/pHBVMk561KE?si=jTuXMW28gllMgCu5>



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Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar

**Shri Bada Ganesh Ji Mandir, Varanasi,
Uttar Pradesh, India**



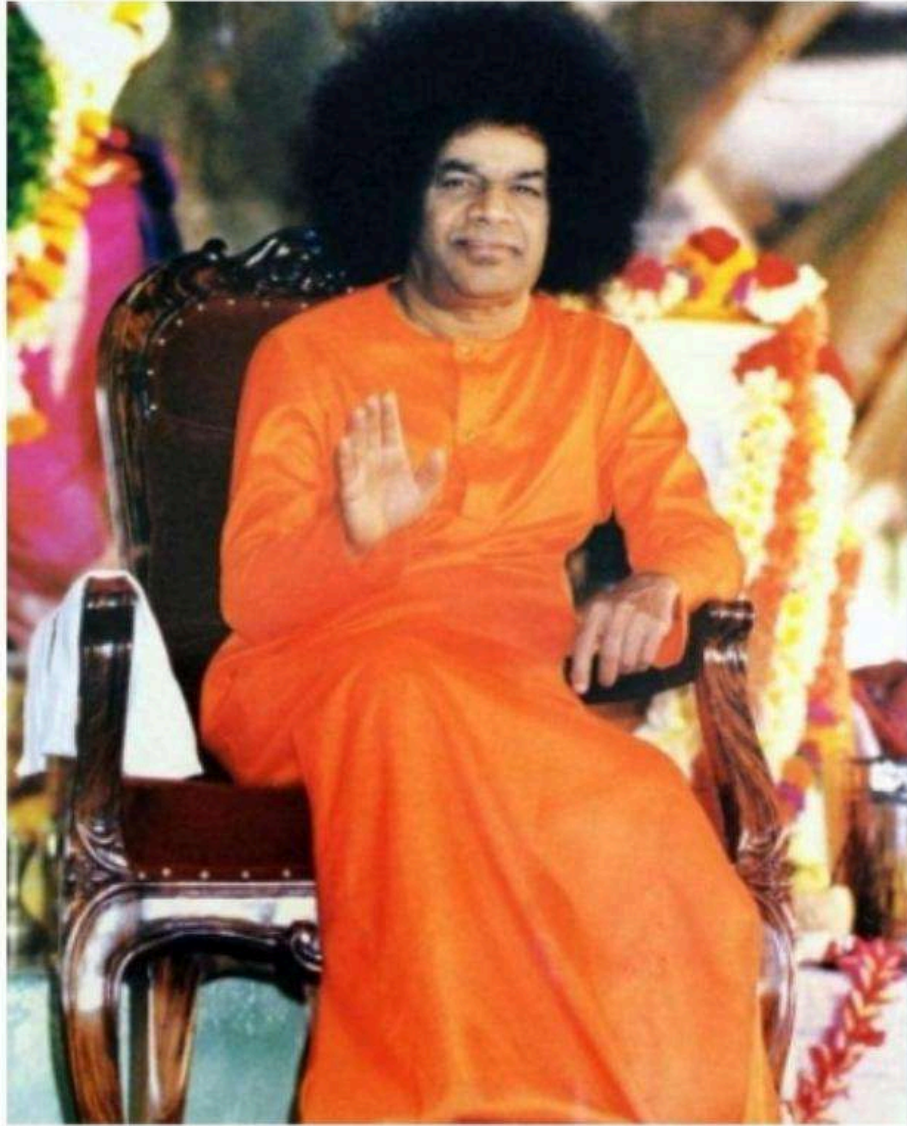
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DEDICATION

**This work is lovingly dedicated at the lotus feet of:
Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba**



**There is only ONE caste -The Caste of Humanity
There is only ONE religion –The Religion of Love
There is only ONE language –The Language of the Heart
There is only ONE God –He is Omnipresent**

.....Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba

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PREFACE



This free ebook gives briefly info about: “ **Shri Bada Ganesh Ji Mandir, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India** ”.

Details of the Temple location, phone number and how to reach there, Temple History, miracles and legends, architecture, Timings, festivals, deities, poojas, rituals and special poojas, speciality of this temple, where to stay - accommodation, nearby attractions, contact info, info for devotees, facilities for devotees, Do's and Don'ts, guidelines for devotees, Tips for Visitors, donation info, similar places, nearby places, nearby budget hotels and star hotels, comments by visitors,..etc are given.

Info on Ganeshotsav, ganesh pooja vidhi, 40 pillared Bada Ganesh Mandir..etc are given.

Brief bio of some ancient and modern day devotees of Lord Ganesh are given.

Many good photographs of the temple, idols and related activities are given.

Links to YouTube Videos give videos relating to the temple, its history, greatness, festivals, travel vlogs,,.....etc.

Acknowledgements:

Many of my friends and relatives have actively encouraged me in my attempt to compile this free ebook. I sincerely thank them for their support.

My wife Kala has always encouraged and supported me in all my literary works, sacrificing much of her time. I express my deep appreciation to her.

I have drawn from many references, and also from YouTube as mentioned in the text.

Finally, I express my immense gratitude to Sri Sathya Sai Baba for His Grace and blessings, prompting me to initiate, continue and complete this work.

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar,
May 18, 2025
Email: tmuliya@rediffmail.com

Ref: Wikipedia

Bada Ganesh Ji Mandir, Varanasi



Bada Ganapati is famous as the world's tallest and largest Ganesha idol. This Ganesha is situated at the end of Malharganj in the western part of the city. It was built 120 years ago by Narayan Dadhich after being inspired by Chintaman Ganesha of Ujjain.

This ardent devotee of Shri Ganesh had a vision of Virat Ganesh in his dream at the age of 16. That enchanting and huge form got etched in his mind and he became determined to make it a reality.

With the hope of achieving success in this sadhana, Narayanji used to walk four kilometers from Ujjain every Wednesday to Chintamani Ganesh and pray to God. He had to come to Indore where his dream came true. Bondarji Patel got the registration of 100 square feet of land done for Rs. 42 and 2 annas.

This huge Ganesha idol is not made of cement but of brick, lime, sand and sand mixed with jaggery and fenugreek seeds. Water from all the pilgrimage places and soil from seven Mokshapuris of Ayodhya, Mathura, Maya, Kashi, Kanchi, Ujjain and Dwarka were mixed in it. The construction was completed in about two and a half years.

The idol was consecrated on Magh Sudi Chaturthi (Sankashti) in Samvat 1961. The height of the idol from the feet to the crown is 25 feet and its width is 16 feet. The idol is seated on a four feet high pedestal. People from all over the country and abroad come to see this idol. A huge crowd can be seen in this temple on Ganesh Chaturthi. This Ganesh idol that gives peace to the heart takes away the worries of all and makes people happy and prosperous.

Ref: ChatGPT - AI

Temple Name: Shri Bada Ganesh Ji Temple

Location: Near Assi Ghat, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India

1. Details of the Temple Location, Map, Phone Number...etc

- **Address:** Bada Ganesh Mandir, Assi Ghat, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh – 221005, India
 - **Google Maps Link:** [Shri Bada Ganesh Ji Temple - Map](#)
 - **Phone Number:** Not officially published; may vary by priest. Local tourism office may help: **UP Tourism Varanasi: 0542-2508466**
 - **How to Reach:**
 - **By Air:** Nearest airport is *Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport* (approx. 25 km).
 - **By Train:** *Varanasi Junction* (7 km) and *Manduwadih Station* (4 km) are nearby.
 - **By Road:** Connected via auto-rickshaws, taxis, and e-rickshaws from all major points of the city.
-

2. Temple History, Miracles, and Legends

- This temple is said to be *one of the oldest Ganesh temples in Varanasi*, revered for the *large idol of Lord Ganesha*, hence the name "Bada" (big).
 - Local belief associates it with sages who worshipped Ganesha here for wisdom before beginning spiritual learning.
 - It's believed that offering prayers here removes obstacles and grants success in new ventures and exams.
 - Some legends say *Saint Tulsidas* visited the temple during his time in Varanasi.
-

3. Architecture

- The temple showcases **typical Nagara style architecture** with a simple but spiritually charged sanctum.
 - The highlight is the *massive idol of Lord Ganesha*, painted in vibrant red and decked with flowers and ornaments.
-

4. Timings

- **Temple Opening Hours:**
 - Morning: **5:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

- Evening: **4:00 PM to 9:00 PM**
 - Open on all days including festivals.
-

5. Deities

- **Main Deity:** Lord Ganesha (in a massive form)
 - Other idols such as **Shiva**, **Parvati**, and sometimes **Hanuman** may be found in adjoining shrines.
-

6. Poojas, Rituals, and Special Poojas

- **Daily Aarti** in morning and evening.
 - Offerings include **modaks**, **laddoos**, and **durva grass**.
 - **Sankashti Chaturthi** and **Ganesh Chaturthi** are special days for elaborate poojas.
 - Devotees often recite the **Ganapati Atharvasheersha** and **Ganesha Ashtottara**.
-

7. Festivals

- **Ganesh Chaturthi** (August–September) is celebrated grandly with crowds from across India.
 - **Sankashti Chaturthi** (monthly observance) attracts regular devotees.
 - **Diwali** and **Navaratri** also bring heightened activity to the temple.
-

8. Specialty of This Temple

- The unusually **large and powerful idol** of Ganesha is a focal point of spiritual energy.
 - Considered auspicious for **students**, **businesspeople**, and those starting new endeavors.
 - Popular for **removing obstacles** and fulfilling wishes quickly.
-

9. Accommodation – Where to Stay

Budget Hotels Nearby:

- *Hotel Temple on Ganges* – Near Assi Ghat
- *Hotel Ganesha* – Budget stay, walkable from the temple
- *Zostel Varanasi* – Youth hostel, good reviews

Star Hotels:

- *Taj Ganges, Varanasi* – Luxury stay, 5-star
 - *Hotel Clarks Varanasi* – 4-star
 - *Radisson Hotel Varanasi* – Upscale facilities
-

10. Nearby Attractions

- **Assi Ghat** – 2 mins walk
 - **Kashi Vishwanath Temple** – ~4 km
 - **Sankat Mochan Hanuman Temple** – 2.5 km
 - **Tulsi Manas Mandir** – 2 km
 - **Banaras Hindu University (BHU)** – 3 km
 - **Durga Temple (Red Temple)** – 2 km
 - **Manikarnika Ghat** – ~5 km
-

11. Contact Info

- No official temple website.
 - Local assistance: **UP Tourism Office, Varanasi – 0542-2508466**
-

12. Info and Facilities for Devotees

- **Shoe Stand, drinking water, and basic seating** are available.
 - Shops outside sell **offerings, sweets, and flowers**.
 - Nearby **prasadam stalls** and tea shops.
 - The temple is **wheelchair accessible with assistance**.
-

13. Do's and Don'ts

Do's:

- Dress modestly and traditionally.
- Carry your own pooja materials or buy outside.
- Maintain silence inside sanctum.

Don'ts:

- Avoid photography inside sanctum unless allowed.
- Do not litter the premises.
- Avoid touching the idol.

14. Guidelines for Devotees

- Visit early morning or evening for a peaceful darshan.
 - Participate in the evening **aarti**, considered spiritually uplifting.
 - On crowded days, carry water, umbrella, and wear light clothes.
-

15. Tips for Visitors

- Combine your visit with nearby temples like **Sankat Mochan and Kashi Vishwanath**.
 - Carry cash; digital payments not accepted everywhere.
 - Bargain politely at shops for pooja items.
-

16. Donation Info

- Donations are accepted in cash at the temple counter.
 - As there is no official website, **online donations may not be available**.
 - Offerings like modak or coconut are common and appreciated.
-

17. Similar Places

- **Siddhi Vinayak Temple, Mumbai**
 - **Ganesh Tok, Gangtok**
 - **Rockfort Ucchi Pillayar Temple, Trichy**
 - **Kanipakam Vinayaka Temple, Andhra Pradesh**
-

18. Nearby Places

- *Banaras Hindu University* – Education & cultural center
 - *Sarnath* – Buddhist pilgrimage site (~10 km)
 - *Ramnagar Fort* – Historical fort (~6 km)
 - *Bharat Kala Bhavan Museum* – Inside BHU campus
-

19. Nearby Budget Hotels and Star Hotels

Refer to Section 9 above for hotel options. Additional options:

- *Hotel Heritage Inn*
- *Ganges View Hotel*

- *Shiva Ganges View Guest House*
-

20. Comments by Visitors

- “The idol’s size is stunning and the energy is deeply spiritual.”
 - “A lesser-known gem in Varanasi, peaceful and powerful.”
 - “The darshan here gave me immense clarity before my exams.”
-

21. Additional Info

- No official dress code but traditional attire is encouraged.
 - Temple is especially beneficial for **students, scholars**, and **business ventures**.
 - Recommended duration of visit: 20–30 minutes.
-

Please mention 3 ancient saints who were votaries or devotees of Bada Ganesh Ji, and three modern day Saints who were devotees of Bada Ganesh ji and write 500 words about each of these saints.

There are no well-documented, historically verified saints directly and exclusively associated with Shri Bada Ganesh Ji Temple in Varanasi in traditional scriptures or biographies. However, several saints — both ancient and modern — were known to have revered Lord Ganesha in Varanasi or were spiritually linked to the region, and can be reasonably associated as devotees of Bada Ganesh Ji, given the temple’s prominence in Varanasi. Below is a list based on traditional and regional associations:

Ancient Saints Who Were Devotees of Lord Ganesha in Varanasi

1. Sage Agastya

2. Rishi Patanjali

3. Saint Tulsidas

Modern-Day Saints Devoted to Lord Ganesha in Varanasi

1. Swami Karpatri Maharaj (1907–1982)

2. Anandamayi Ma

3. Swami Avimukteshwarananda Saraswati (Disciple of Swami Swaroopanand Saraswati)

500 words write - ups about these Saints:

1. Sage Agastya – The Southern Seer and Devotee of Lord Ganesha

Sage Agastya is one of the most revered rishis in Hindu tradition and is considered a towering figure in both northern and southern Indian spirituality. A descendant of Sage Pulastya and one of the Saptarishis (seven great sages), Agastya played a pivotal role in spreading Vedic knowledge, taming natural and metaphysical forces, and integrating divine worship across the subcontinent. Though he is most renowned for his influence in South India, several legends tie him to Kashi (Varanasi), where he is believed to have meditated and invoked various deities — notably Lord Ganesha.

Agastya's connection to Lord Ganesha is recorded in numerous Puranic sources, especially in the *Skanda Purana* and *Ganapati Upanishad*. Before undertaking great spiritual journeys or writing hymns, Agastya is said to have worshipped Lord Ganesha as the *Vighneshwara* — the remover of obstacles. He emphasized that no ritual or undertaking should commence without invoking Ganesha first. This foundational teaching laid the groundwork for generations of seers and saints.

In his extensive travels from north to south India, Agastya is said to have visited Kashi — the eternal seat of Shiva — several times. The sacred energy of the city is described in scriptures as the *spiritual umbilicus* of the world, and it is here that Agastya offered his prayers to a large idol of Ganesha. While Bada Ganesh Ji Temple in its current form may not have existed during his time, regional oral traditions suggest that Agastya performed *Ganapati upasana* at a site near Assi Ghat — today home to the Bada Ganesh Ji Temple. This connects his worship symbolically to the temple.

Agastya's contribution to Ganesha devotion goes beyond ritual — he is credited with integrating Ganapati mantras into early Tantric and Yogic systems. His version of Ganesha worship emphasized inward purity, removal of ego, and readiness to receive higher wisdom. Several Agamic and Siddha texts refer to his meditations on Ganesha for inner clarity.

Another significant contribution of Agastya is in his *Agastya Samhita*, a vast collection of hymns, rituals, and mystical insights. Though not directly focused on Ganesha, it often starts with invocations to Lord Ganesha, reinforcing his importance in all spiritual undertakings. The *Agastya Samhita* also outlines the metaphysical significance of the elephant-headed deity as a symbol of vast intelligence and unshakeable strength.

Agastya's role as a teacher of humility, strength, and spiritual discipline mirrors many qualities associated with Ganesha. His influence on sacred geography, including Kashi, and his reverence for Ganesha in every phase of worship, mark him as a foundational devotee whose spirit is closely aligned with the ethos of Bada Ganesh Ji Temple.

Even today, some traditional Ganesha pujas in Varanasi invoke Agastya's name alongside the deity — a sign of the rishi's lasting spiritual presence in the city and its temples.

Here is a 500-word write-up on **Rishi Patanjali**, the second ancient saint associated with Lord Ganesha and Varanasi:

2. Rishi Patanjali – The Sage of Yoga and Devotee of Lord Ganesha

Rishi Patanjali is widely revered as the compiler of the *Yoga Sutras*, one of the foundational texts of Indian philosophy. He is also associated with the *Mahabhashya* (great commentary) on Panini's grammar and important works in Ayurveda. Though his life details remain shrouded in mystery, his spiritual influence is undeniable. Patanjali is often depicted as a yogi with a half-human, half-serpent form — symbolizing his deep connection to the cosmic consciousness and yogic energy (Kundalini). He is traditionally believed to have lived in and around Varanasi, and his association with Lord Ganesha is spiritual, philosophical, and deeply symbolic.

As the master of Yoga, Patanjali placed immense importance on clarity of mind, discipline of body, and overcoming mental obstacles — concepts that perfectly align with Lord Ganesha's role as *Vighnaharta*, the remover of hurdles. In many yogic traditions, especially those practiced in Varanasi and South India, Lord Ganesha is worshipped before beginning yoga sadhana, a custom traced back to the teachings of Patanjali and earlier sages like Agastya.

It is said that Rishi Patanjali often invoked Lord Ganesha at the start of his philosophical expositions, believing that only through Ganesha's blessings could one attain the *buddhi* (intellect) and *viveka* (discernment) required to pursue yoga and grammar. Ancient commentaries on his works begin with a prayer to Ganesha, acknowledging him as the guardian of knowledge and the granter of success.

While the Bada Ganesh Ji Temple in Varanasi is of relatively recent construction, it stands in a city that has been sacred for millennia. Many yogic and Shaivaite traditions say that Patanjali resided near the *Vishwanatha Jyotirlinga* in Varanasi, and some believe that he performed penance near the site where the Bada Ganesh idol stands today. He viewed Lord Ganesha not just as a deity of beginnings, but as the cosmic intelligence that supports the practice of *chitta-vritti-nirodha* — the stilling of mental fluctuations.

The connection is further cemented by the symbolic significance of Ganesha and Patanjali: both are linked to the control and mastery of the *muladhara chakra*. Ganesha is the presiding deity of this root chakra, and Patanjali's yoga philosophy emphasizes the movement of energy upward from the root to higher levels of awareness. In this way, Ganesha is not just an external deity, but an inner presence guiding the seeker's journey, a concept closely tied to Patanjali's teachings.

Rishi Patanjali's silent, composed image — a yogi deeply immersed in the truth — matches the meditative form of Lord Ganesha as *Dhyana Ganapati*. In fact, several advanced forms

of Ganesha dhyana (meditative visualization) practices stem from yoga texts influenced by Patanjali's style of concentration and discipline.

Today, yoga practitioners visiting Varanasi often begin their spiritual routines with prayers at the Bada Ganesh Ji Temple, invoking both Patanjali's and Ganesha's blessings. The synthesis of yogic discipline and Ganesha devotion remains a living tradition in the spiritual landscape of Kashi.

Here is a 500-word biography of the third ancient saint associated with devotion to Lord Ganesha and Varanasi:

3. Saint Tulsidas – The Devotee of Rama Who Revered Lord Ganesha

Goswami Tulsidas (1532–1623 CE) is one of India's greatest saints, poets, and philosophers, best known for composing the *Ramcharitmanas* — a devotional retelling of the Ramayana in Awadhi. He was a profound devotee of Lord Rama, but he held deep reverence for Lord Ganesha as well, in accordance with the ancient tradition of invoking Ganesha at the beginning of every literary or spiritual work. Living most of his life in Varanasi, Tulsidas's connection to the sacred city and its temples — including the site near today's Bada Ganesh Ji Temple — is well attested.

In his major works, such as *Vinaya Patrika*, *Kavitavali*, and *Ramcharitmanas*, Tulsidas begins with prayers to multiple deities including Ganesha, Saraswati, and Hanuman. His invocation to Lord Ganesha, typically in the form of *Vakratunda Mahakaya*, is not mere ritual but reflects his genuine reverence for the deity as the remover of spiritual and mental obstacles. Tulsidas was deeply traditional and followed the scriptural norm that *every auspicious act begins with Ganapati Vandana (invocation)*. He viewed Ganesha as the one who purifies the path for Rama's name to enter the devotee's heart.

One of the legends surrounding Tulsidas in Varanasi says that when he was struggling to begin the composition of *Ramcharitmanas* on the banks of the Ganga, he first prayed at several shrines, including a prominent Ganesha shrine near the Assi Ghat. Oral traditions suggest that the site now occupied by the Bada Ganesh Ji Temple was one such spiritual location sanctified by his worship. He sought Ganesha's blessings to remove *linguistic*, *intellectual*, and *societal* barriers to his work being understood by all — from scholars to common villagers.

In the *Vinaya Patrika* (a heartfelt prayer compilation), Tulsidas offers *ganapati stuti* (praise of Ganesha), highlighting Ganesha's form as the embodiment of wisdom, auspiciousness, and the destruction of ego. These stutis, though brief, carry the mark of deep spiritual sincerity and are still recited in Varanasi homes and temples today.

Tulsidas was also known for his daily circumambulations of Kashi, which included visits to key temples. Bada Ganesh Ji Temple, though modern in architecture, stands in a historically

sacred area, and is part of the *Panchatirtha Yatra* that many saints including Tulsidas are believed to have performed.

His humility before Ganesha set an example for his followers: even the mightiest poet-saint bowed to the elephant-headed deity before composing divine poetry. His life teaches that devotion to one's *ishta devata* (chosen deity) does not preclude reverence for others. Tulsidas harmonized Shaiva, Vaishnava, and Ganapatya traditions beautifully — a spiritual ideal upheld in Varanasi to this day.

The legacy of Tulsidas's devotion to Ganesha is enshrined in the spiritual memory of Kashi. Pilgrims to the Bada Ganesh Ji Temple often recite the Ganesha invocations from *Ramcharitmanas*, honoring both the poet-saint and the deity who blessed his immortal work.

Here is a 500-word write-up on **Swami Karpatri Maharaj**, the first modern-day saint associated with devotion to Lord Ganesha and the sacred city of Varanasi:

4. Swami Karpatri Maharaj – Defender of Dharma and Devotee of Lord Ganesha

Swami Karpatri Maharaj (1907–1982), born as Har Narayan Ojha in Uttar Pradesh, was one of the foremost Hindu saints, scholars, and religious reformers of the 20th century. Renouncing the world at an early age, he embraced the life of a sannyasi and took the name “Karpatri” — one who uses only his hands (*kar* – hand, *patri* – vessel) for alms, signifying a life of total austerity. A towering intellectual, he mastered Vedas, Vedanta, Mimamsa, Nyaya, and Tantra, and became a champion of Sanatana Dharma during a time of ideological turmoil in India. Though widely known for his devotion to Sri Ram and his leadership of the Dharma Sangha, his reverence for Lord Ganesha was deep and foundational.

Swami Karpatri Maharaj was based primarily in Varanasi, and his daily spiritual routine included visits to several temples across the city. Among these, the *Bada Ganesh Ji Temple* held special importance. He considered Lord Ganesha the first deity to be invoked in every scriptural recitation, religious debate, yajna, and ritual. He would often emphasize that just as Ganesha removes physical and material obstacles, He also removes intellectual and spiritual blocks — a vital principle for scholars and seekers alike.

Karpatri Maharaj's writings and discourses often began with invocations to Ganesha. In his commentaries on Vedantic and Mimamsic texts, he quotes the *Ganapati Atharvashirsha Upanishad* and integrates Ganesha's attributes as *Brahmanaspati* — the divine Lord of sacred speech and knowledge. For Karpatri Maharaj, Lord Ganesha was not just the deity of auspicious beginnings but also the gateway to inner clarity and spiritual courage.

During the annual *Ganesh Chaturthi*, he would encourage traditional celebrations rooted in scriptural authenticity. Though the festival is more prominent in Maharashtra, Karpatri Maharaj played a role in reviving Ganesha festivals in north India, particularly in Varanasi.

He believed that public worship of Ganesha could unify communities, strengthen dharmic identity, and bring spiritual awareness to the masses.

He also taught that Ganesha worship could be a path to Vedantic realization. In several private talks, he explained that the elephant head symbolized *Mahabuddhi* (great intellect), and the mouse at His feet represented the restless mind — which becomes tamed only in the presence of divine wisdom. This Tantric-Vedantic interpretation inspired many of his followers to take up *Ganapati Upasana* (devotional worship) as part of their sadhana.

Swami Karpatri Maharaj had close ties with many temples in Kashi. Though he was not affiliated with any single institution, he frequently spoke near the *Kashi Vishwanath Mandir*, *Bada Ganesh Ji Temple*, and *Kal Bhairav Mandir*, seeing them as the core of Kashi's spiritual circuit. His disciples would often visit the Bada Ganesh Ji Temple for blessings before embarking on religious studies or pilgrimages.

Even after his passing in 1982, his teachings continue through the Dharma Sangha and various Shankaracharya lineages. His devotion to Lord Ganesha — expressed through profound knowledge, daily rituals, and traditional discipline — remains a living influence in the spiritual life of Varanasi and beyond.

Here is a 500-word write-up on **Anandamayi Ma**, the second modern-day saint associated with deep devotion and reverence for Lord Ganesha and the sacred geography of Varanasi:

5. Anandamayi Ma – The Joy-Permeated Mother and Her Subtle Devotion to Lord Ganesha

Anandamayi Ma (1896–1982), revered as one of the greatest spiritual luminaries of 20th-century India, radiated divine bliss and motherly compassion to all who approached her. Born as Nirmala Sundari in present-day Bangladesh, she exhibited spontaneous spiritual awareness and yogic states even from childhood. Without any formal education or training, she attained a state of perpetual union with the Divine. Although she did not adhere to one particular sect, her teachings reflected an inclusive and deeply traditional Sanatana Dharma. Her reverence for all deities, including **Lord Ganesha**, was integral to her path of universal devotion.

Anandamayi Ma visited **Varanasi** several times during her lifetime and maintained a deep spiritual connection with the city. She often said that **Kashi was a city of Divine Presence** and would encourage her followers to do pilgrimage and sadhana there. In line with traditional Hindu beliefs, she honored Ganesha as the deity of auspicious beginnings, wisdom, and spiritual progress. Devotees accompanying her in Varanasi noted that she would offer silent salutations when passing by the **Bada Ganesh Ji Temple**, situated near the Kashi Vishwanath corridor.

Though Anandamayi Ma did not publicly perform elaborate rituals, she upheld their spiritual essence. She emphasized that the **inner attitude** with which a puja is performed is more

important than the outer form. To her, **Lord Ganesha represented the removal of ego**, the main obstacle in the path of self-realization. In her words, “Each form of the Divine is a doorway to the Formless. Ganesha removes the knot of individuality that binds the soul.”

In many of her ashrams, including those in Varanasi and Haridwar, there are shrines dedicated to **Lord Ganesha**. These were not just symbolic — they were actively maintained and worshipped by the inmates and devotees. Her guidance encouraged the use of traditional mantras, such as *Om Gam Ganapataye Namaha*, especially before undertaking any significant spiritual task or travel.

Anandamayi Ma also endorsed the celebration of **Ganesh Chaturthi**, even in parts of India where the festival was less prominent. While she did not favor mass displays, she emphasized personal, sincere puja and japa (mantra repetition). Her devotees recall how she would smile at the sight of Ganesha idols and quietly chant mantras under her breath when in front of His image — conveying her love for Him in subtle ways.

A powerful anecdote from her Varanasi stay tells of a time when a devotee was struggling with memory loss and intellectual confusion. Anandamayi Ma advised the person to **pray to Lord Ganesha daily**, offering a small modak and reciting a simple mantra. Within months, the devotee reported tremendous clarity and improvement. Though Ma never took credit, she affirmed, “Where there is true devotion, the Deity must respond.”

Anandamayi Ma’s teachings seamlessly integrated **devotion (bhakti), knowledge (jnana), and selfless action (karma)**. Her respect for Lord Ganesha was part of her universal vision — one where **every deity was a facet of the One Supreme Reality**, and Ganesha was the remover of inner and outer barriers on the path to God.

Here is a 500-word write-up on the **third modern-day saint, Swami Avimukteshwarananda Saraswati**, who is deeply associated with Kashi and reverent devotion to Lord Ganesha:

6. Swami Avimukteshwarananda Saraswati – The Voice of Dharma and Spiritual Guardian of Kashi

Swami Avimukteshwarananda Saraswati is a prominent contemporary saint and the designated spiritual successor of **Jagadguru Shankaracharya Swami Swaroopananda Saraswati**, the revered head of the Dwarka and Jyotirmath peethas. Deeply rooted in Advaita Vedanta and traditional Vedic learning, Swami Avimukteshwarananda is widely respected as a tireless protector of dharma and temples, especially in the sacred city of **Kashi (Varanasi)**. His spiritual path is intimately woven with his devotion to **Lord Ganesha**, particularly through the historic **Bada Ganesh Ji Temple**, near the Kashi Vishwanath corridor.

True to his name — *Avimukteshwarananda* — which references **Lord Shiva as Avimukteshwara**, the ever-present deity of Kashi, he is a fierce advocate for preserving the

sanctity of temples and rituals in this eternal city. However, before undertaking any public initiative or spiritual program, Swamiji invariably begins with **worship of Lord Ganesha**, whom he refers to as “*Vighneshwara*”, the remover of all obstacles and the granter of success in righteous action.

Swamiji has often spoken about the special significance of **Bada Ganesh Ji** as the guardian of the **Kashi Vishwanath temple** and the entire spiritual circuit of Varanasi. In public lectures, he reminds devotees that **no prayer, yajna, or temple activity should begin without invoking Lord Ganesha**, as per both Vedic injunctions and Agamic traditions. He has been known to personally lead special Ganesha pujas and Ganapati Homams in the Bada Ganesh Ji precincts before important events like spiritual discourses (pravachans), temple renovations, or dharma yatra launches.

A strict traditionalist, Swami Avimukteshwarananda teaches that **Ganapati Upasana (worship of Ganesha)** is not limited to seeking material success, but is also a vital **Vedantic practice**. In his view, Ganesha symbolizes **buddhi (intellect), shraddha (faith), and vighna-vinasha (removal of inner barriers)** — qualities essential for realizing the Self. He encourages both monks and householders to begin their day with the Ganapati mantra and to keep a **murti of Ganesha** near their puja space or study area.

He has also warned against the superficial celebration of Ganesh Chaturthi and insists that **ritual purity, scriptural chanting, and reverence for tradition** must guide these observances. On multiple occasions, he has inaugurated **Ganapati yajnas** in Varanasi and has supported the **renovation and protection of Ganesha temples**, especially in the old city areas vulnerable to encroachment or neglect.

His spiritual discourses often reference **Ganapati Atharvashirsha**, and he encourages seekers to meditate on the form of **Ekadanta (one-tusked Lord)**, as a symbol of single-pointed devotion and discrimination. He also interprets the **mouse (mooshika)** as the human mind — constantly restless but finally tamed under the Lord’s control.

In recent years, Swamiji has been active in **legal and spiritual campaigns to preserve Varanasi’s temple traditions**, always seeking **Ganesha’s blessings before taking action**. Whether speaking at a dharma gathering or guiding youth in spiritual practices, Swami Avimukteshwarananda exemplifies a living link between **ancient wisdom and modern dharma challenges**, with Lord Ganesha as his ever-present guide.

Ref: newstrack.com

Varanasi famous Ganesh Mandir

By Yachana Jaiswal, September 8, 2024



Bada Ganesh Mandir details

Banaras Bada Ganesh Mandir Details: Lord Ganesha is known as Vighnaharta. There is a miraculous temple of Lord Ganesha in Banaras which people know as Bada Ganesha. In the city of Lord Shiva, there is a temple of his son Ganapati ji where his idol is also three-eyed. The history of this temple, famous as Bada Ganesha, is said to be thousands of years old.

Ganesh ji is more pleased by offering Durva garland and Besan laddus are available near the temple area. Pujari ji is also very polite and gives full facility to all the people. Students should visit this temple every Wednesday to remove any obstacle in studies or people facing any obstacle in business or job or any field of life should visit and serve the lotus feet of Shri Ganesh and they definitely get the benefit.



Address, Timings

Name : Shri Bada Ganesh Mandir Varanasi

Location : 8296+VJP, Maidagin, Lohatia, Kabir Nagar Chauraha, Jaitpura, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

Timings : 6am to 11pm



When did you come here?

The best season to visit this unique temple of Banaras is winter season. The months from September to February are the best. You can visit Banaras during this time.



How to reach?

Some of the local people of Varanasi come here on daily basis while some people come on weekly Wednesday as Wednesday is considered to be the day of Shri Ganesh ji. If you are visiting Varanasi then you can come to Maidagin Chowk (you can come here from any place in Varanasi it is one of the famous Chowks here) and then Shri Bada Ganesh Ji Mandir is at walking distance from Lohati where the temple is situated.



The supernatural nature of the temple

A very beautiful and grand temple which is located near Lohatia and Maidagin in Banaras. It is said that the idol of Ganesh ji is made of wax, on which the idol has become huge due to the application of vermilion and sesame oil. Bada Ganesh Mandir is famous for the idol of Ganesh ji with three eyes. This temple is very beautiful and has forty pillars. The idol is self-manifested and it has his wives Riddhi and Siddhi. Its height is five and a half feet.

Ref: jagran.com

40 Khambhovala Ganesh Mandir

Know the secret of the Trinetra statue of Lord Ganesha installed in Kashi city.

By Jeethesh Kumar, June 27, 2021

40 Khambhovala Ganesh Mandir:

Kashi city of Uttar Pradesh, which is considered the city of Bholenath. Who does not know the glory of Vishwanath Jyotirling of Lord Shiva in Kashi, but Lord Ganesha, son of Lord Shiva, is established in his special form in Kashi. This idol of self-manifested Lord Ganesha installed in Kashi is of the three-eyed form. It is believed that by worshipping this three-eyed form of Lord Ganesha, the destroyer of obstacles, on the day of Ganesh Chaturthi, all the obstacles and hindrances in the life of the devotees are removed and wishes are fulfilled.



40 pillared temple located at Lohatia

This temple of Lord Ganesha with his self-manifested Trinetra idol is situated at a place called Lohatia in Banaras. He is also called Bada Ganesha. It is believed that when the Mandakini river used to flow along with Maa Ganga in Kashi, this idol of Lord Ganesha was found at that time. It is believed that that day was the day of Sankashti Chaturthi of Magh month, since then a fair is organized here on this day. This temple of Ganesha is built in a special style with 40 pillars, which amazes all the devotees coming here. Nothing can be said clearly about the antiquity of the temple.

Glory of Bada Ganesh Mandir

Devotees from far and wide come to the Lord Ganesha temple located in Lohatia. Here Lord Ganesha is seated with his two wives Riddhi-Siddhi and children Shubh-Labh. It is believed that by worshipping this form of Ganesha, one receives Riddhi-Siddhi and Shubh-Labh. In this temple, the closed door worship of Ganesha has special significance, which no one is allowed to see. There is always a crowd of devotees here who come to make a wish and with the desire to get rid of their troubles. There is a special benefit of seeing the Lord on the day of Ganesh Chaturthi.

Bada Ganesh Ji temple of Varanasi

November 18, 2020

Ganeshji seated in this temple has three eyes, darshan not only cures diseases but also cures all sufferings.

In the city of Lord Shiva, there is a temple of his son Ganapati Ji where he himself is three-eyed. The history of this temple, famous as Bada Ganesh, is thousands of years old.



Headlines

- The idol of God is self-manifested in this temple
- This famous temple is built on 40 pillars
- Troubles go away by visiting Vighnaharta here

Self manifested idol

Bada Ganesh is a special and prominent temple of Lord Ganapati in Kashi i.e. Varanasi. Here he is also known as Vakratunda. Here the idol of Ganapati Ji is self-manifested and he has three eyes like his father Shiva, not two. Many troubles of a person are removed just by seeing the vermilion coloured Ganesh idol. It is believed that by seeing and worshipping Bada Ganesh Bhagwan, all the pending works are completed and the path of progress becomes easy. Ganapati Ji is seated here with his wife Riddhi-Siddhi and son Shubh-Labh.

Goddess Mansa, Santoshi Maa and Hanuman Ji are also present in this temple. Ganapati Ji is seated in the sanctum sanctorum and his vehicle Mushakraj is seated outside the sanctum sanctorum.

History - 2000 years old

This temple is located in Lohatia, Varanasi. There is a self-manifested idol of Ganeshji here and a special worship of the Lord is done behind closed doors. No one is allowed to see it. The history of the temple is said to be two thousand years old. The special thing is that this temple rests on 40 pillars and having 40 pillars in a temple is considered very auspicious. This temple has been built by carving enameling and stones. Here Ganapati ji is seated under a silver umbrella. It is believed that once upon a time the Ganges used to flow near Baba Vishwanath. Dhundhiraj Ganesh who is at the Vishwanath gate and his form is also worshipped here.

The history of the temple is said to be 2000 years old. It is said that at that time Mandakini existed along with Ganga in Kashi. At that time this natural idol of Lord Ganapati came out of the river. It can still be seen in its original form in the temple. This idol is 5 and a half feet tall and has three eyes. Ganapati ji is seated here with his entire family and due to Ganapati ji having three eyes, the importance of this temple increases. It is believed that Ganapati ji definitely fills the bag of every devotee who comes here.

Wednesday worship is special - for wish fulfillment

Whenever you worship Ganapati Ji here, make sure to bathe him with Panchamrit. After this, offer Durva and Laddu as Prasad. If you want to get a wish fulfilled from Bada Ganesh, then come here on Wednesday and worship him properly and after that tell him your wish. Also, he will leave after giving a promise that if his wish is fulfilled, he will come again to worship properly and seek his blessings.

Ganesh ji pooja



Headlines

- Ganeshji is considered to be the manifestation of success and auspicious powers.
- Chanting the tantric mantra of Ganapati frees you from every problem
- No work is successful without worshipping him.

Wednesday is a special day for worshipping Lord Ganesha and if he is worshipped properly during Navratri and some tantric mantras are chanted, then man's troubles and obstacles are easily removed. Lord Ganesha is considered to be the form of Siddhi and auspicious powers and this is why he is worshipped first. No work is successful without his worship. Every auspicious work begins with the Aarti of Lord Ganesha. Every man should chant the tantric mantra of Ganesha during Navratri.

Ganesh pooja vidhi

To get progress and wealth, worship Lord Ganesha in this way, you will get immediate benefits.

Ganesh Amritvani, To get rid of financial constraints: If you are facing the problem of financial constraints or lack of progress, then you should worship Ganpati Ji in a special way on Wednesday.

Headlines

- Offer curd to Ganapati Ji for 21 Wednesdays
- Offer betel nut to Lord Ganesha and keep it in your safe
- Offer Durva tied in Mauli to Lord Ganesha

Lord Ganapati is worshipped on Wednesday. Worshipping Ganapati brings happiness and good fortune in life as well as freedom from troubles. If you are facing financial problems or your progress has stopped, you must worship Ganapati on Wednesday. Ganapati is the destroyer of obstacles and also the one who makes your work successful. If Ganapati is worshipped on Wednesday with some special method, then the Lord is pleased very quickly and your problems can be solved easily.



Ref: abplive.com

Ganeshotsav 2024:

By Nishant Chaturvedi, September 9, 2024

Big Ganesh temple is situated in Varanasi, Kashi Kotwal had taken care of security after taking permission from them

The self-manifested Bada Ganesh Mandir located in Lohatia, Varanasi has special significance. There is a huge crowd of devotees here every day. The temple is situated on 40 pillars. The 5 feet high Trinetra idol is decorated with vermillion.



Ganeshotsav 2024: Ganeshotsav is being celebrated all over the country. In this sequence, the Swayambhu Bada Ganesh Mandir is also established in Lohatia, Varanasi. It is believed that by visiting Lord Ganesha seated here, one gets relief from all troubles and the visitor gets happiness, prosperity and glory. This thousands of years old temple is important for many special things. The idol of Lord Ganesha seated in the sanctum sanctorum of the temple is about 5 feet high, which has three eyes. His entire idol is painted with vermillion color and he is seated in the temple with his entire family. Just outside the sanctum sanctorum, there is also a statue of Mushakraja, who is known as the vehicle of Lord Ganesha.

Along with Kashi, devotees from far and wide reach the Bada Ganesh temple located in Lohatia, Varanasi to have darshan. A huge crowd of devotees is seen here every day. But especially on Wednesdays, devotees are seen queuing up to reach the Bada Ganesh temple for darshan. Apart from this, there is a huge crowd on Ganesh Chaturthi as well. There is a shop of laddu, modak, flower garland, dube right outside the temple premises from where people also buy these worship materials to offer to Lord Bada Ganesh.

Kashi Kotwal had taken permission from Lord Ganesha.

In a conversation with ABP News, Kashi's religious leader Vishwakantacharya told that there are many ancient temples in Kashi, which have mythological importance. According to the

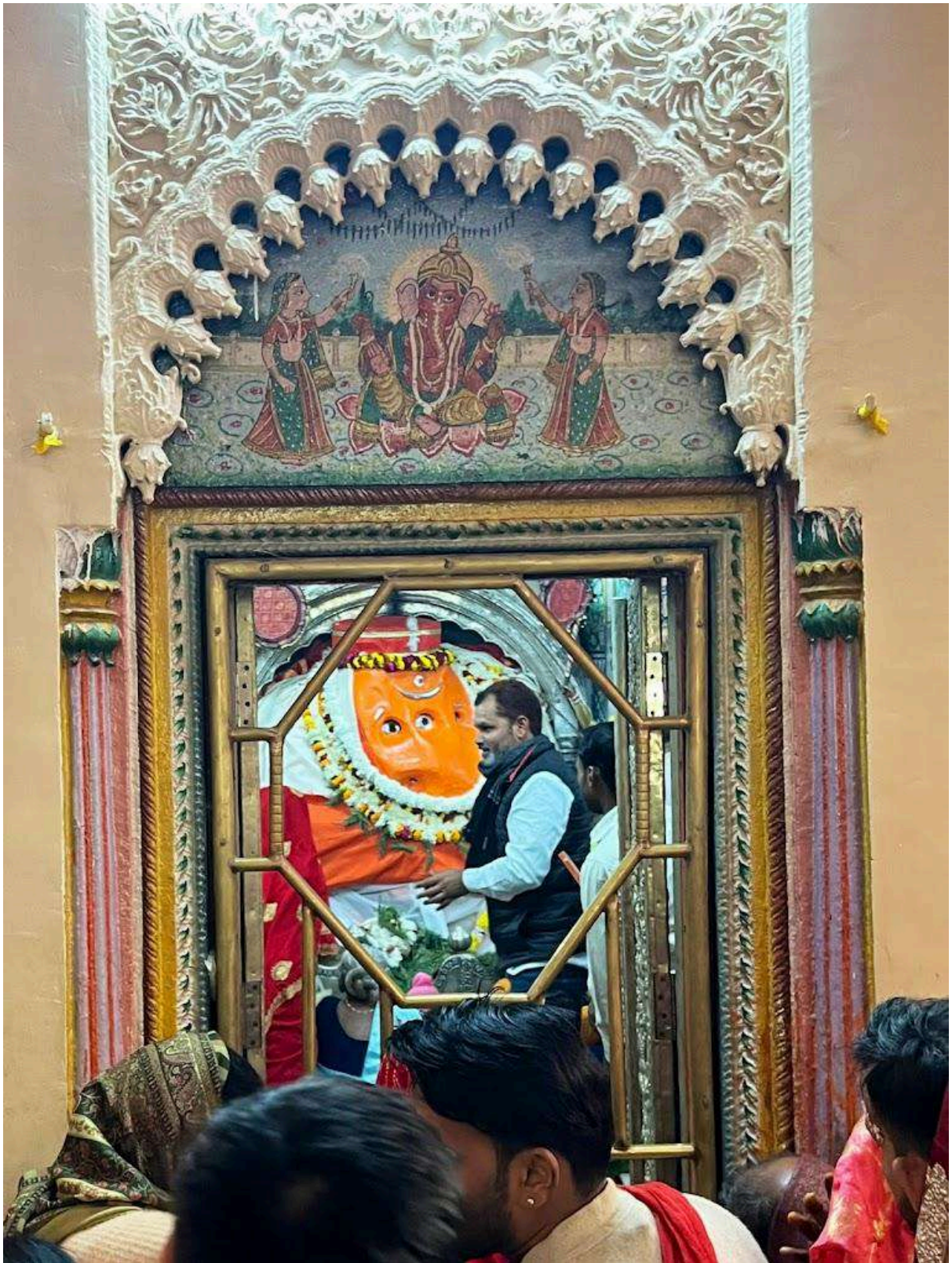
religious text Kashi Khand, one of the Ashtavinayakas established in the central city is Shri Bada Ganesh Temple and it is known as a self-manifested temple. This temple is situated on 40 pillars which is the most unique feature of this complex. It is said that Kashi's protector general, Kashi Kotwal Kaal Bhairav, took permission from Lord Bada Ganesha and started taking responsibility for Kashi's security.

There are shops selling Laddu, Modak, flower garlands and dube just outside the temple premises. This temple is situated just before the Kaal Bhairav and Lord Kashi Vishwanath temple. This temple is known as Bada Ganesh Mandir all over the world.

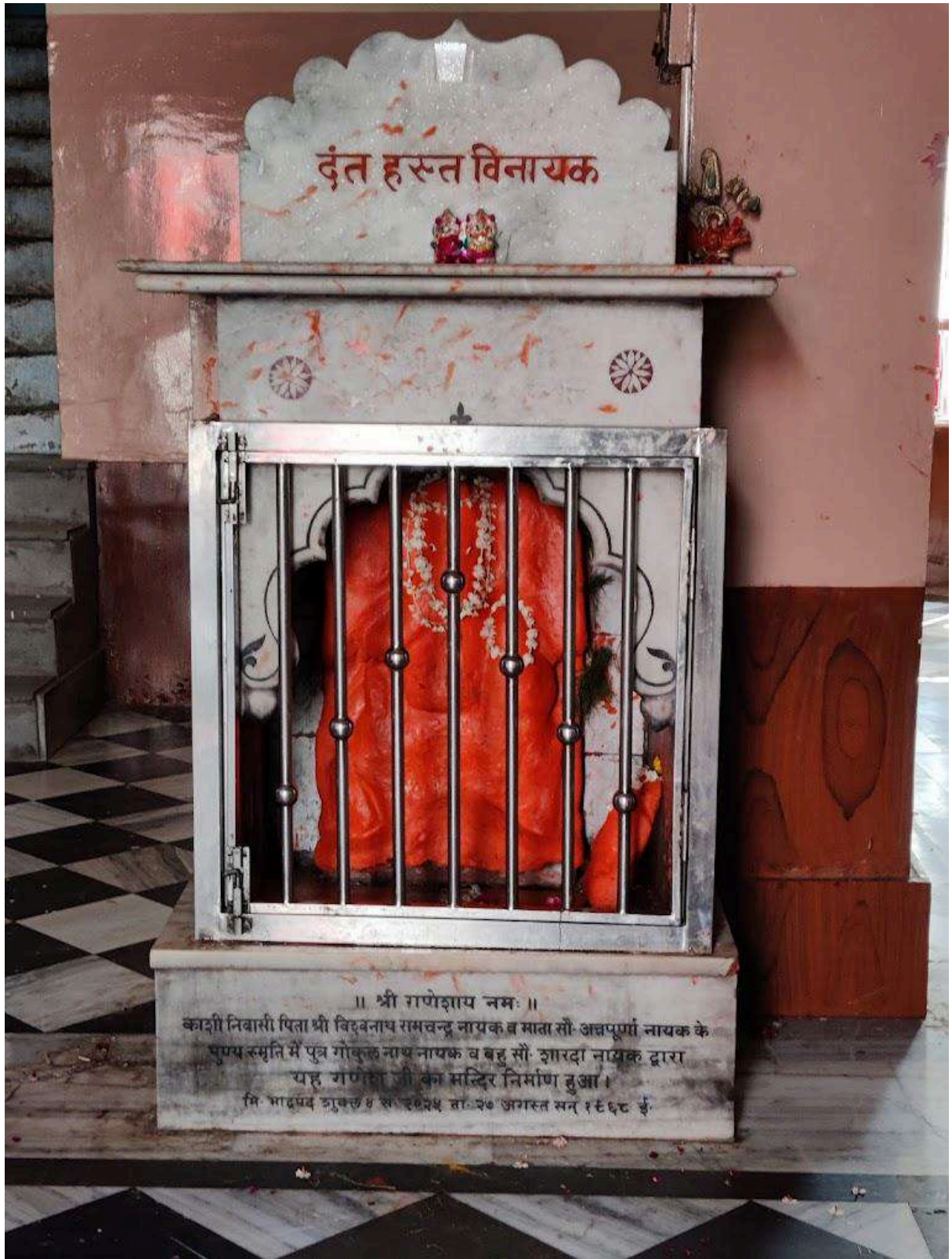
Ref: [google.com](https://www.google.com)

Photos



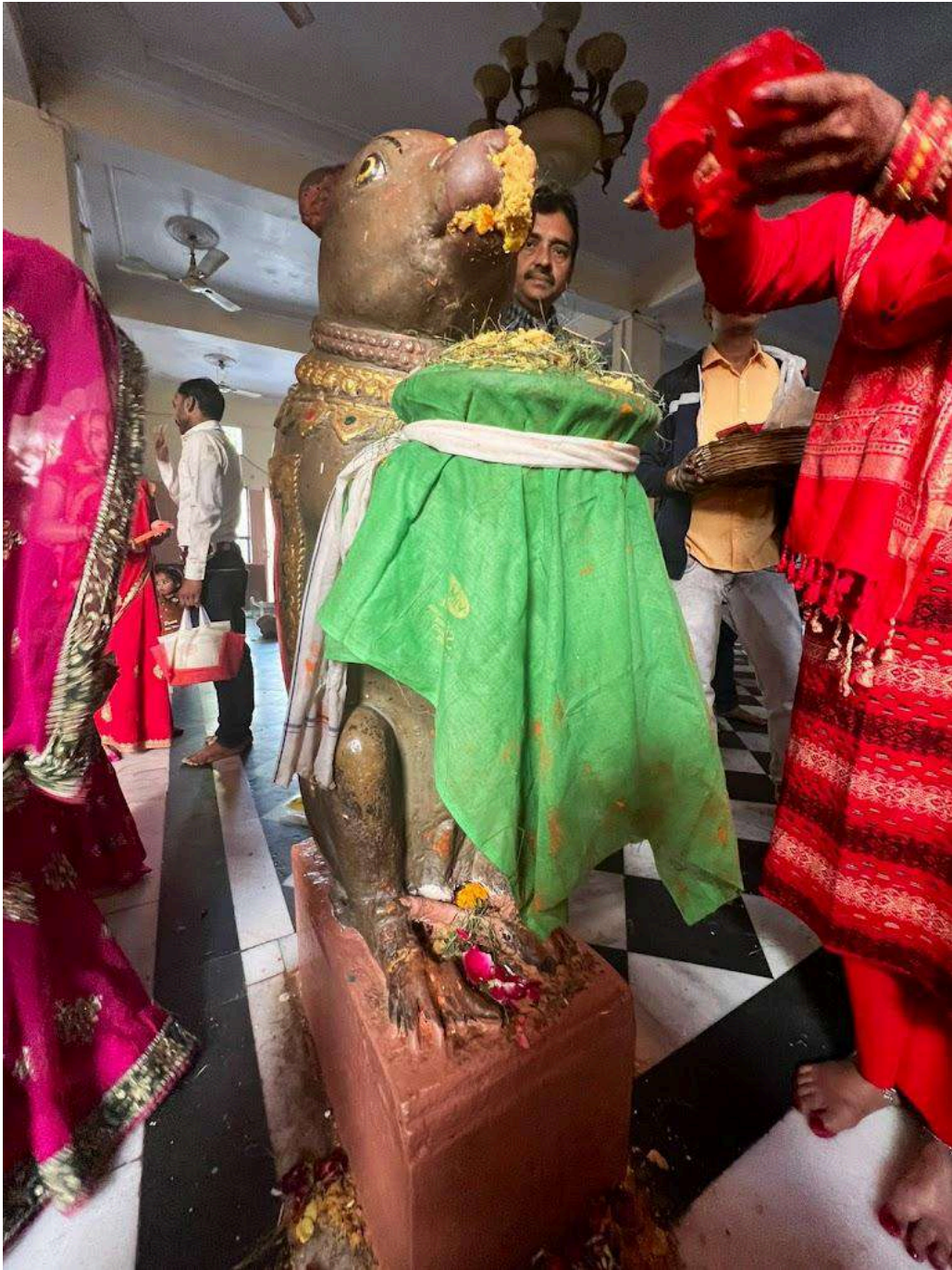


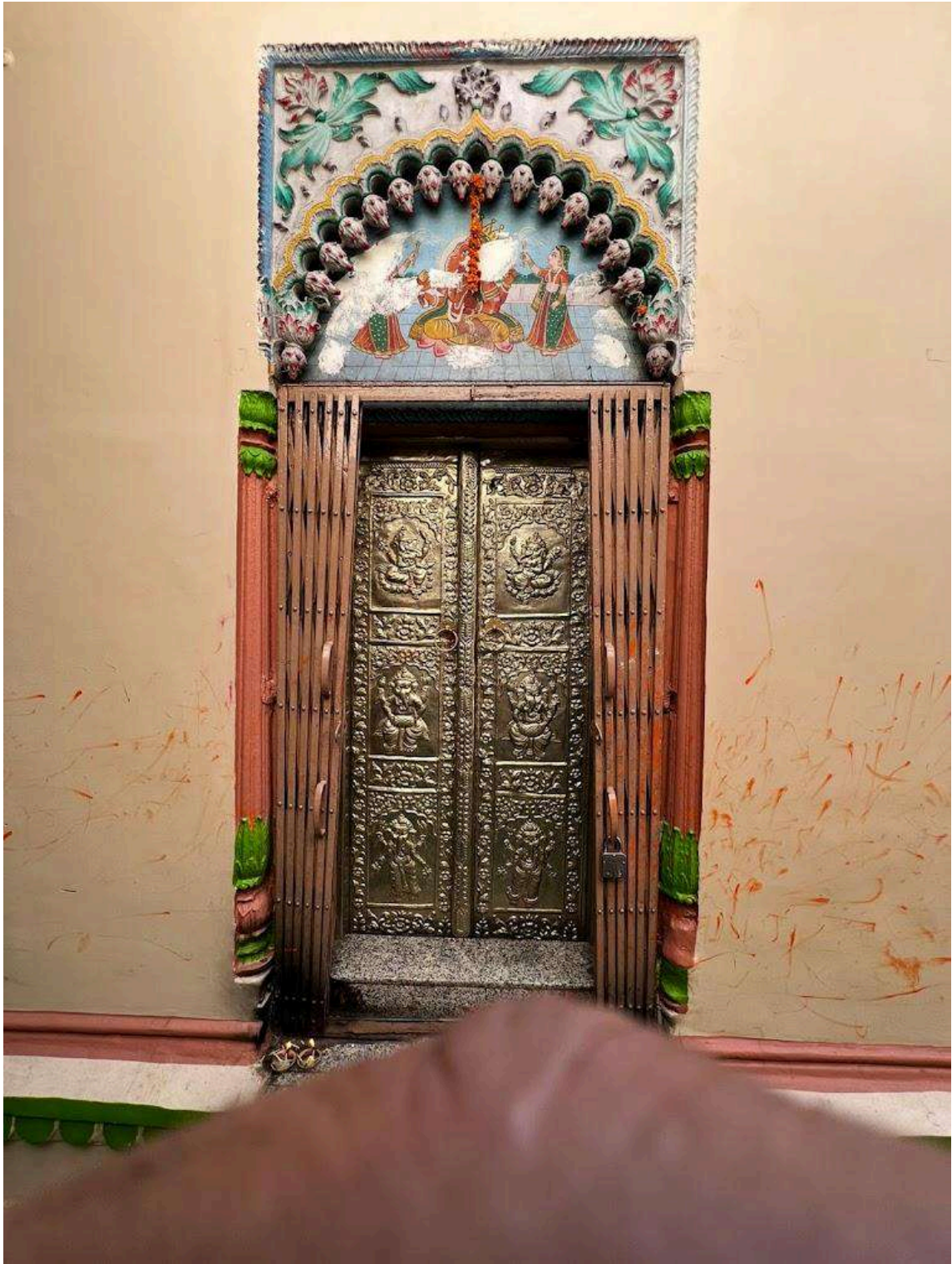






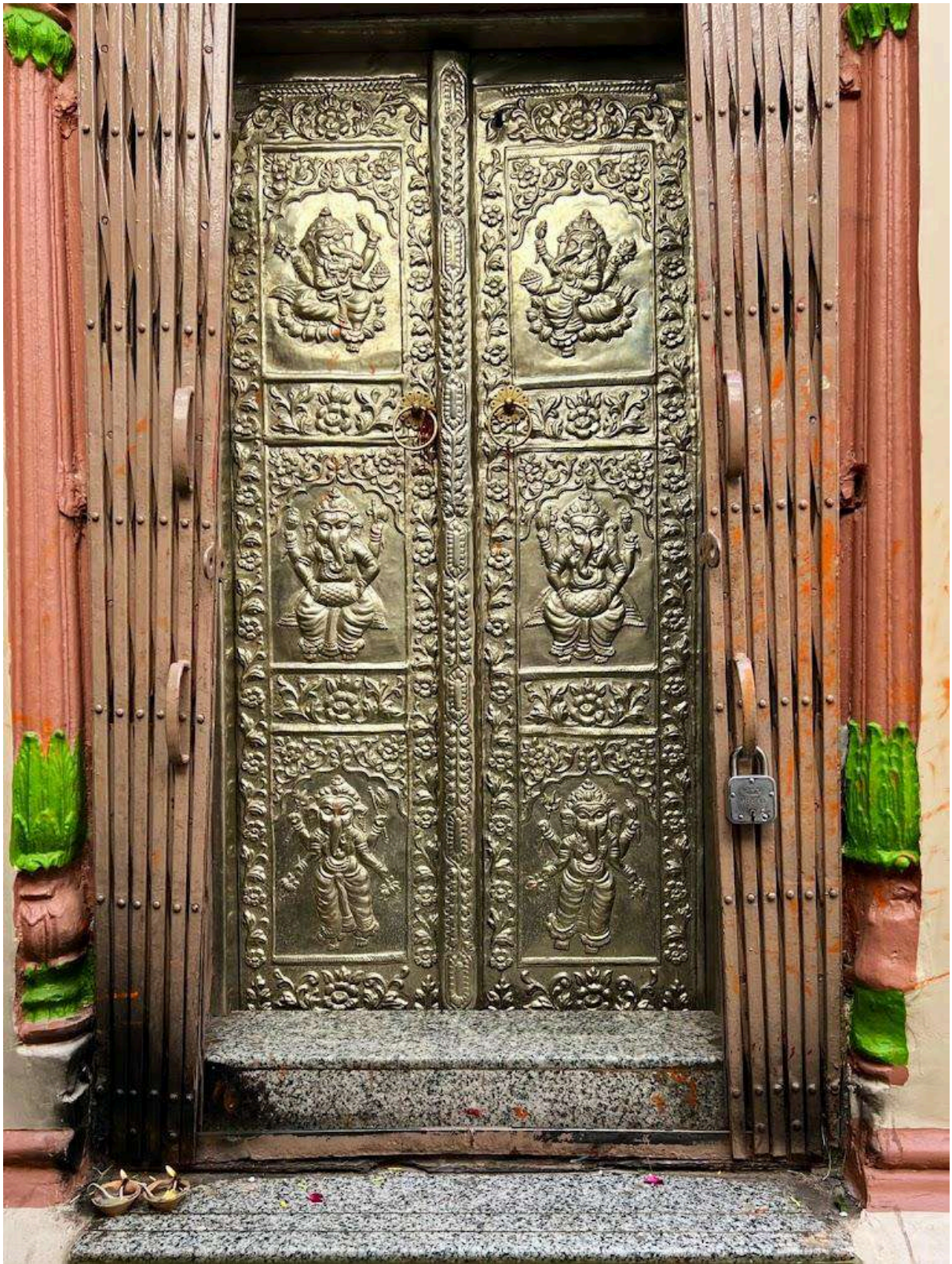


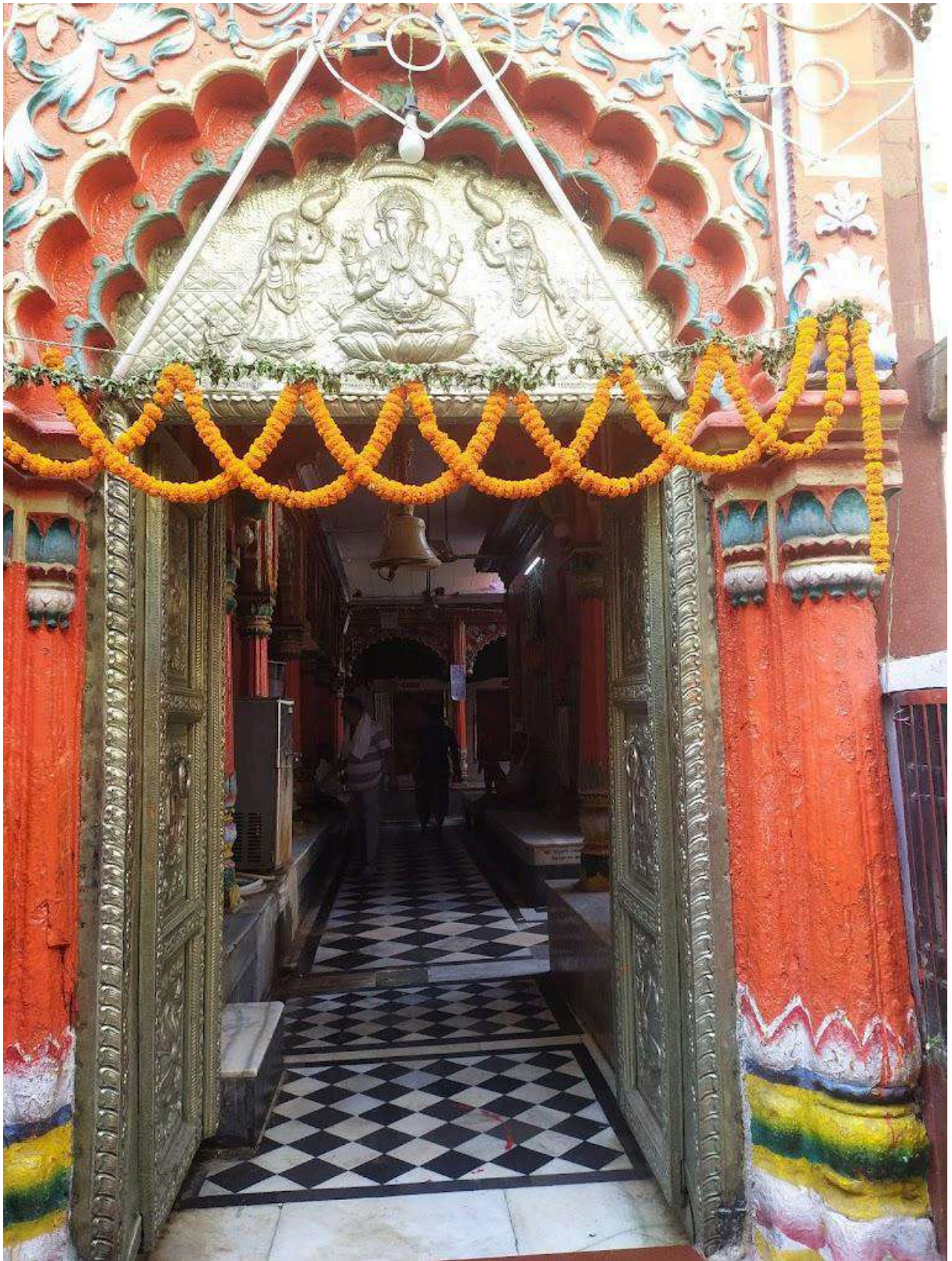




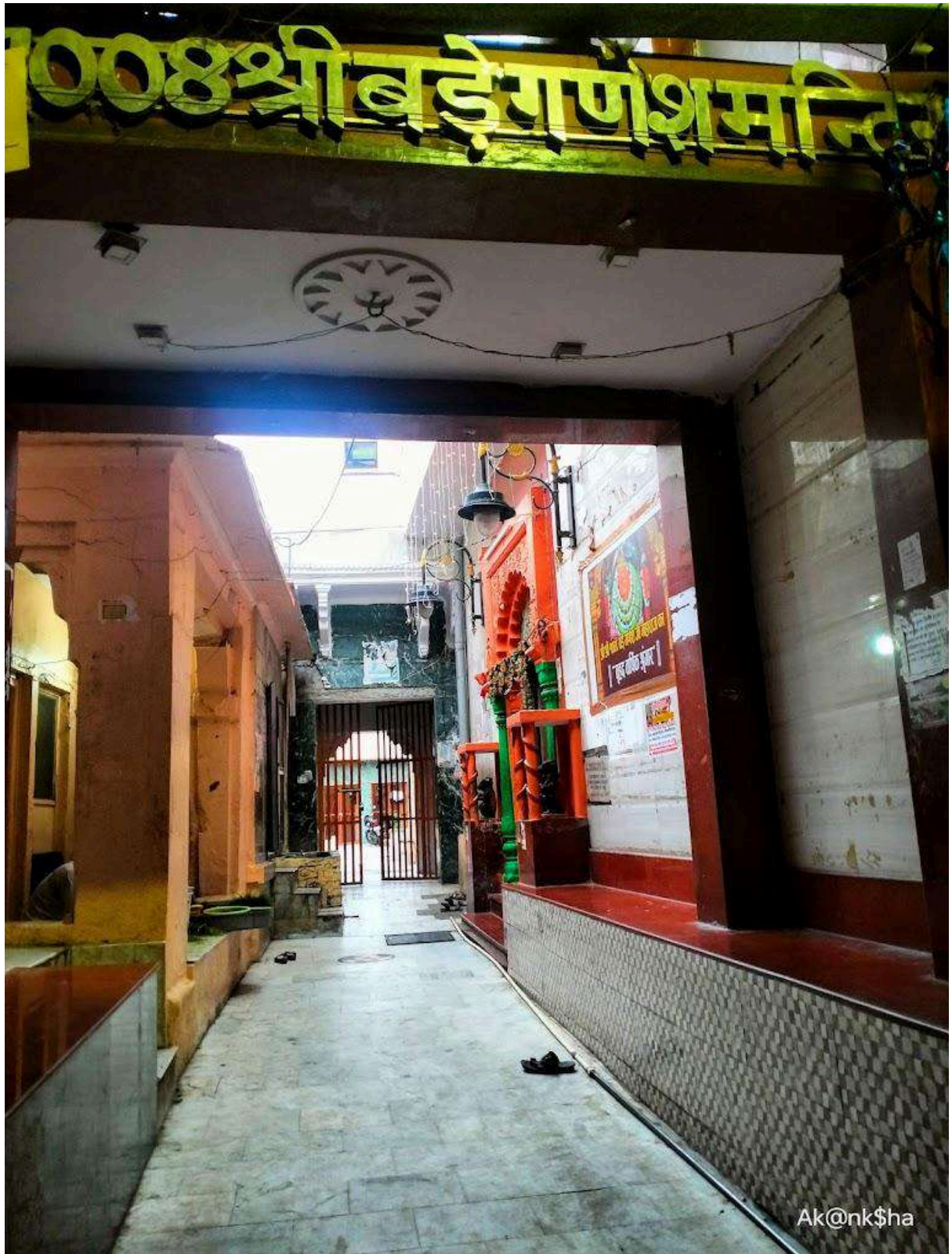






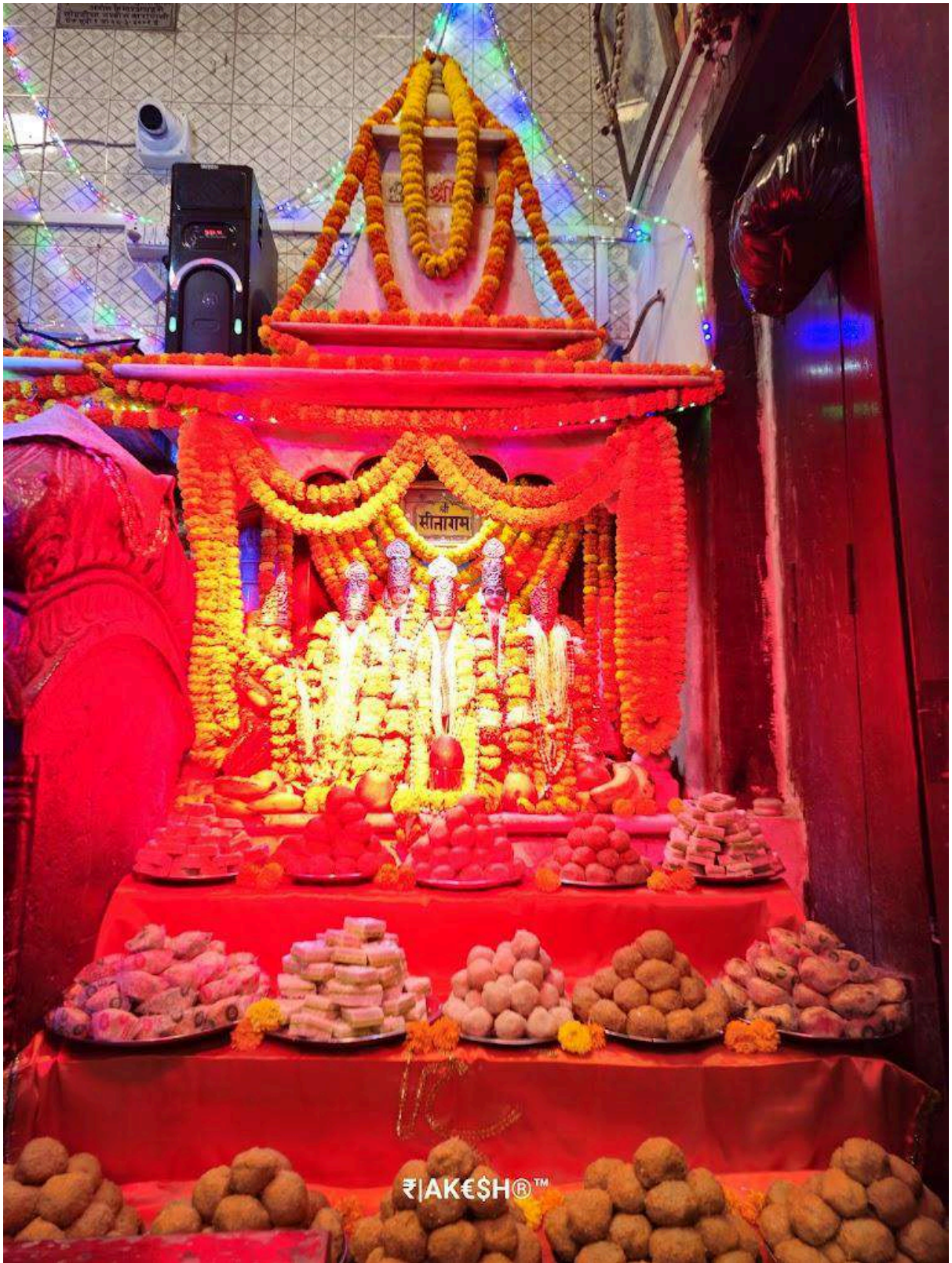








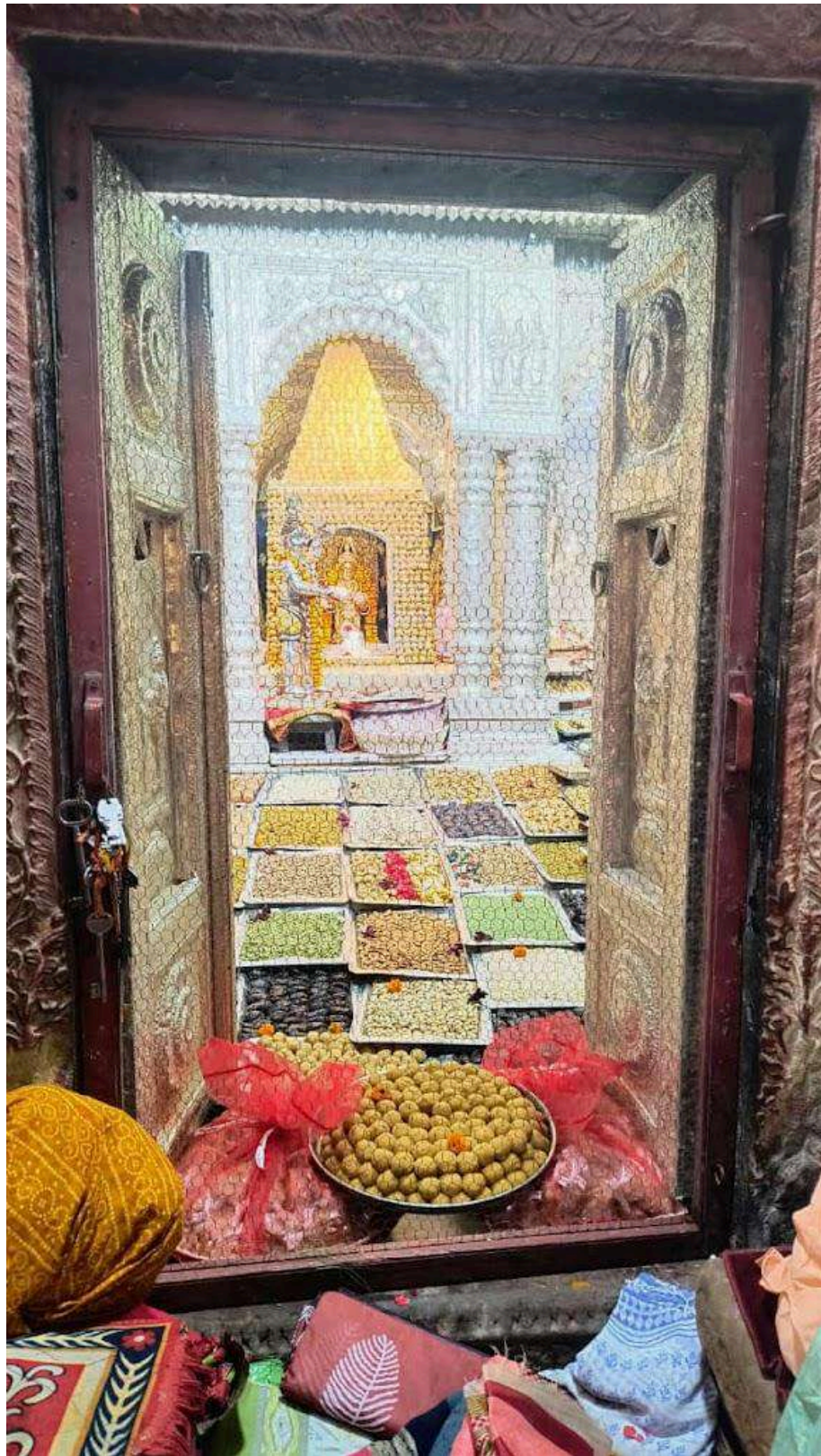
Varanasi











YouTubeVideos

History of Bada Ganesh Mandir (0.45 min):

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/qH8kZ3J22lw?feature=share>

Bada Ganesh Mandir (5 min): <https://youtu.be/YuThuHtB0Vs>

Bada Ganesh Mandir (9 min): <https://youtu.be/enHcjdCqVM>

Bada Ganesh Mandir (8 min): <https://youtu.be/dT6w6T9z1yE>

Ada Ganesh Mandir - darshan (0.43 min): <https://youtu.be/zII4iR75u84>

Bada Ganesh Mandir and SaiBaba idol News18MP(4 min): <https://youtu.be/4zMhFbfe8HM>

Ganesh Chaturthi 2024 (4 min):

<https://www.amarujala.com/video/uttar-pradesh/varanasi/video-namami-gange-performed-the-aarti-of-lord-ganesha-on-ganesh-chaturthi>

Bada Ganesh Mandir (0.17 min):

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/hFU9KfjWLMk?feature=share>

Ganeshotsav 2024 - NewsNation (3 min): <https://youtu.be/8JxQcTORdxM>

Ganesh Mahima - Swami Ashutoshanand (10 in): <https://youtu.be/KMuMdGos-eU>

Bada Ganesh Mandir (5 min): <https://youtu.be/GgzKFxU9mg4>



ॐ स॒ह ना॑ ववतु । स॒ह नो॑ भुनक्तु । स॒ह वी॒र्यं॑ करवावहै । ते॒ज॒स्विना॒वधी॑तमस्तु मा वि॒द्विषा॒वहै॑ ॥ (3)

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Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar

**Shreemant Dagdusheth Halwai Ganapati Temple,
Pune, Maharashtra, India**



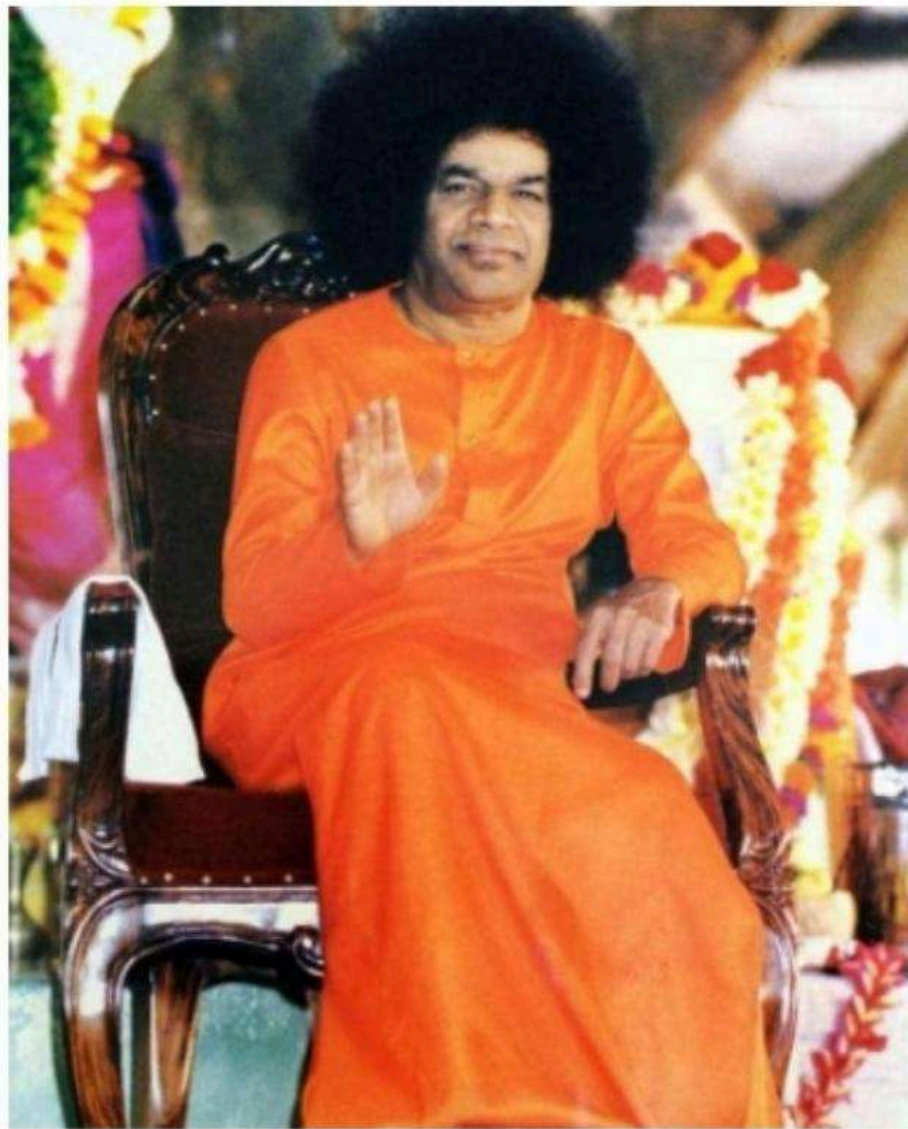
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DEDICATION

**This work is lovingly dedicated at the lotus feet of:
Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba**



**There is only ONE caste -The Caste of Humanity
There is only ONE religion –The Religion of Love
There is only ONE language –The Language of the Heart
There is only ONE God –He is Omnipresent**

.....Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba

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PREFACE



This free ebook gives briefly info about: “ **Shreemant Dagdusheth Halwai Ganapati Temple, Pune, Maharashtra, India** ”.

Details of the Temple location, map, phone number and how to reach there, Temple History, miracles and legends, architecture, Timings, festivals, deities, poojas, rituals and special poojas, speciality of this temple, where to stay - accommodation, nearby attractions, contact info, info for devotees, facilities for devotees, Do's and Don'ts, guidelines for devotees, Tips for Visitors, donation info, similar places, nearby places, nearby budget hotels and star hotels, comments by visitors, FAQs,..etc are given.

Details on the various spiritual, cultural and humanitarian activities by the Temple Trust are given.

Many good photographs of the temple, idols and related activities are given.

Links to YouTube Videos give videos relating to the temple, its history, greatness, festivals, Sanggetotsav, Ganeshotsav, Ganesh Chaturthi, travel vlogs and travel guides, visit by PM Modi in August 2023,,.....etc.

Acknowledgements:

Many of my friends and relatives have actively encouraged me in my attempt to compile this free ebook. I sincerely thank them for their support.

My wife Kala has always encouraged and supported me in all my literary works, sacrificing much of her time. I express my deep appreciation to her.

I have drawn from many references, and also from YouTube as mentioned in the text.

Finally, I express my immense gratitude to Sri Sathya Sai Baba for His Grace and blessings, prompting me to initiate, continue and complete this work.

Dr. M. Thirumaleswar,
May 20, 2025
Email: tmuliya@rediffmail.com

Ref: Wikipedia

Dagdusheth Halwai Ganapati Temple, Pune

Address, phone etc

Ganpati Bhavan, 250, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Rd, Mehunpura, Sadashiv Peth, Pune, Maharashtra 411002

Phone: [020 2447 9222](tel:02024479222)

[Hours](#): [Open](#) · Closes 10:30 pm

Deity: [Ganesha](#)

Geographic coordinates: 18°30'59"N 73°51'22"E / 18.51639°N 73.85611°E

Governing body: Shreemant Dagdusheth Halwai Sarvajanik [Ganpati](#) Trust



The **Dagadusheth Halwai Ganapati Temple** is a [Hindu temple](#) dedicated to the Hindu god [Ganesh](#) in the city of [Pune](#). The temple is visited by over one hundred thousand devotees every year.^[1] a large number of Devotees visit the temple during the annual ten-day public [Ganeshotsav](#) festival.^[2] The main Ganesh idol is insured for sum of ₹10 million (US\$120,000).^[3] It celebrated 132 years of its Ganapati festival in 2024.

History

Dagdusheth Halwai was a successful sweet seller (Halwai) and a rich businessman in the city of Pune in the late 1800s. His original halwai shop still exists under the name "Dagdusheth Halwai Sweets" near Datta Mandir in Pune. In the late 1800s, he and his wife Laxmibai lost their only son in a [plague](#) epidemic. The grieving couple followed the advice of a sage to build a Ganesh temple in Pune in his memory.^[5] Later, Dagdusheth adopted, his nephew Govind Sheth (born 1865) who was 9 years old at the time of his death. Govind Sheth replaced the first Ganesh idol by a new one, with the first one still being present at Akra Maruti Chowk. A generous man, he established an additional Ganesh idol in a wrestling gym called Jagoba Dada Talim. This talim was owned by Dagdusheth as he was also a former wrestling trainer. One of the chowk (square) in Pune is named Govind Halwai Chowk, after him. Along with his mother, Govindsheth handled all the programmes like Ganesh Utsav, Datta Jayanti and other festivities. The residence where they resided is now known as Laxmibai Dagdusheth Halwai Sansthan Datta Mandir Trust. Laxmi Road in Pune is named after Laxmibai Dagdusheth halwai. Govindsheth died in 1943. His son Dattatray Govindsheth Halwai, born in 1926, was the one who established the third Ganesh idol replacing the second. This idol, known as Navasacha Ganpati, is the one that is present today in the Dagdusheth temple. It proved to be an epoch-making event in Indian history.

The temple's [Ganeshotsav pandal](#) was not put up for the first time in 128 years in 2020 due to the [COVID-19 pandemic](#).

Temple



The central icon of Ganesha

The temple is over 100 years old. Jay and Vijay, the two sentinels made of marble catch the eye of all at the outset. The construction is so simple that all the proceedings in the temple along with the Ganesh idol can be seen even from outside. **The Ganesh idol is 2.2 metres tall and 1 metre wide. It is adorned with nearly 40 kilos of gold.** The temple conducts Daily pooja, abhisheka and the arti of the Ganesh. The temple is illuminated during the Ganesh festival. Shrimant Dagdusheth Ganpati Trust manages the temple. The temple is situated in the centre of the city, and a local shopping market is also nearby temple. Various cultural activities like music concerts, bhajans, and Atharvasheersh recitation are organized by the trust.^[8] He later established the Halwai Ganpati Trust.^{[9][21]} [Bal Gangadhar Tilak](#), during the [British Raj](#), gave a public form to the Ganesh festival celebrations as a way of getting

around an order that barred public meetings.^[9] Shri Datta Mandir in Budhwar Peth, Pune was the residence of the Halwai family. In Pune, Govind Halwai has a chowk (square) named after him.

A replica of the temple was built in [Phuket](#), Thailand.

Temple Trust

The Shrimant Dagadusheth Halwai Ganapati Trust carries out philanthropic work from the donations received, and is one of the richest in Maharashtra.^[11] The trust operates an [old age home](#) called *Pitashree* at Kondhwa in Pune. The home was opened in May 2003.^[12] In the same building the trust provides housing and education for 400 destitute children.^[11] Other services provided by the trust include ambulance service for poor and health clinics in tribal belts of [Pune District](#).^[13]

[Ganesh festival](#), [Gudhi Padwa](#) till [Ram Navami](#) are the festivals celebrated by Dagadusheth Halwai Ganapati Trust, Pune.

Gallery



Shrimant Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Mandir



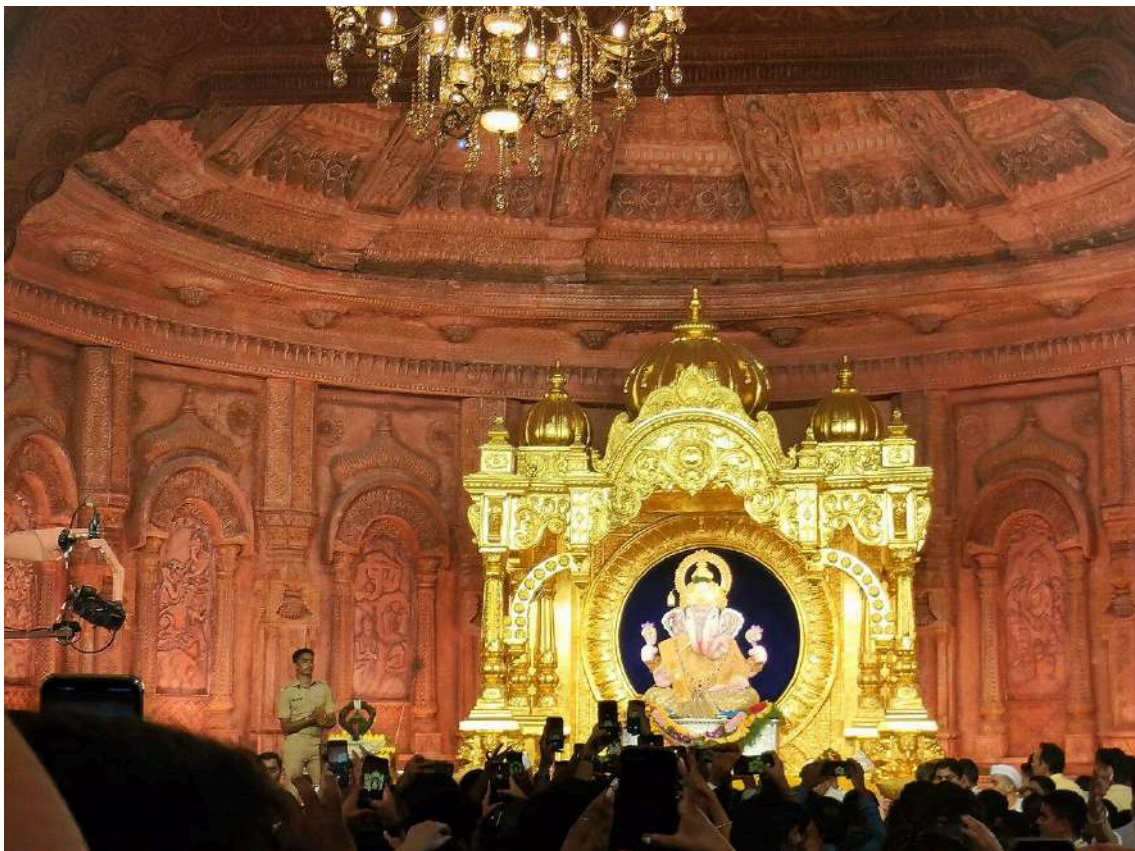
The central icon of Ganesha



Interior of temple



Statue of Ganesha



Temple during Ganesh Chaturthi



Exterior of temple

Shreemant Dagdusheth Halwai Ganapati Temple, Pune

About: Shreemant Dagdusheth Halwai Ganapati Temple, Pune, Maharashtra ..

Give info under following general headings: ...Details of the Temple location, map, phone number and how to reach there, Temple History, miracles and legends, architecture, Timings, deities, poojas, rituals and special poojas, festivals, speciality of this temple, where to stay - accommodation, nearby attractions, contact info, info for devotees, facilities for devotees, Do's and Don'ts, guidelines for devotees, Tips for Visitors, donation info, similar places, nearby places, nearby budget hotels and star hotels, comments by visitors,..etc , and any other additional info..

Here is a detailed write-up on **Shreemant Dagdusheth Halwai Ganapati Temple, Pune, Maharashtra**, covering all your requested points:

1. Temple Location, Map, Phone Number & How to Reach

- **Address:** 250, Budhwar Peth, Pune, Maharashtra 411002, India
- **Google Map Location:** [Dagdusheth Ganapati Temple - Google Maps](#)
- **Phone Number:** +91 20 2447 4668
- **How to Reach:**
 - **By Air:** Nearest airport is **Pune International Airport** (~12 km away).
 - **By Train:** Nearest railway station is **Pune Junction** (~3 km).
 - **By Bus/Auto:** Easily reachable by PMPML buses, autos, and cabs from any part of Pune.

2. Temple History, Miracles & Legends

- **History:** Built in 1893 by **Shreemant Dagdusheth Halwai**, a successful sweet seller and philanthropist. After losing his son to a plague, he and his wife constructed this Ganapati temple.
- **Significance:** Lokmanya Tilak used the annual Ganesh Festival here to unite people during the freedom struggle.
- **Legends/Miracles:** Many devotees claim their prayers for prosperity, health, and education have been answered. The idol is considered extremely "**Jagrut**" (**powerful and responsive**).

3. Architecture

- **Style:** A blend of traditional **Peshwa-style architecture** with modern structural elements.
 - **Main Features:**
 - 7.5-foot tall Ganapati idol decked in gold and jewels.
 - Temple façade adorned with intricate carvings and lighting.
 - Marble floors and gold-plated sanctum.
 - **Security:** High-security zone with CCTV and police surveillance due to high footfall and precious ornaments.
-

4. Timings

- **Temple Opens:** 6:00 AM
 - **Temple Closes:** 11:00 PM
 - **Best Time to Visit:** Early morning or late evening Aarti sessions.
-

5. Deities

- **Main Deity:** Lord Ganesha (Ganapati)
 - **Other Idols:** Lord Shiva, Goddess Durga, and Hanuman in adjacent shrines.
-

6. Poojas, Rituals & Special Poojas

- **Daily Poojas:**
 - **Shodashopachara Pooja** (16-step ritual)
 - **Aarti:** Performed 4 times a day.
 - **Special Poojas:**
 - **Sankashti Chaturthi Pooja**
 - **Ganesh Jayanti**
 - **Ganesh Chaturthi Mahotsav (11 days)**
 - **Laddu Pooja, Abhishekam, and Annadanam**
 - Devotees can sponsor poojas online or at the counter.
-

7. Festivals Celebrated

- **Ganesh Chaturthi (Most Grand)** – 11-day grand event with lakhs of visitors.
- **Maghi Ganesh Jayanti**

- **Sankashti Chaturthi**
 - **Diwali and Holi** with special decorations.
-

8. Speciality of This Temple

- The **idol is laden with over 40 kg of gold.**
 - It is **one of the richest and most famous Ganapati temples** in India.
 - Has a huge charitable arm—**Dagdusheth Halwai Public Ganapati Trust** supporting education, healthcare, and disaster relief.
-

9. Accommodation (Where to Stay)

- **Nearby Budget Hotels:**
 - Hotel Sagar Plaza
 - Hotel Woodland
 - Hotel Shreyas (Pure veg)
 - **Nearby Star Hotels:**
 - JW Marriott Pune
 - Conrad Pune
 - The O Hotel
-

10. Nearby Attractions

- Shaniwar Wada Fort (1 km)
 - Laxmi Road (shopping)
 - Sarasbaug Ganapati Temple
 - Raja Dinkar Kelkar Museum
 - Pataleshwar Cave Temple
-

11. Contact Info

- **Trust Office:** Dagdusheth Halwai Ganapati Trust, Budhwar Peth, Pune – 411002
- **Email:** info@dagdushethganpati.com
- **Website:** <https://www.dagdushethganpati.com>

12. Info & Facilities for Devotees

- **Facilities:**
 - Free footwear stand
 - Drinking water
 - Resting areas and benches
 - Wheelchair access
 - Online pooja/donation portal
 - **Security:** Tight security with metal detectors and guards.
 - **Darshan Queue System:** Well managed with barricades and volunteer guides.
-

13. Do's and Don'ts

Do's:

- Maintain silence and discipline in queue.
- Respect the sanctity of the temple.
- Use official donation counters only.

Don'ts:

- Do not bring large bags or valuables.
 - Photography inside the sanctum is **not allowed**.
 - Do not litter or use mobile phones inside the prayer area.
-

14. Guidelines for Devotees

- Visit early morning for less crowd.
 - Carry ID if booking pooja online.
 - Wear traditional or modest attire.
 - Maintain cleanliness.
 - Follow COVID guidelines if still in effect.
-

15. Tips for Visitors

- Try visiting on weekdays for a peaceful darshan.
- During Ganesh Chaturthi, be ready for long queues.
- If senior citizens are accompanying, use priority entry lanes.

16. Donation Info

- **Donate Online:** Through temple's official website or office counters.
 - Donations support:
 - Free education and hostels for underprivileged kids.
 - Hospitals and medical aid.
 - Disaster relief.
 - **Donation Receipt:** Issued by trust, also available digitally.
-

17. Similar Places

- Siddhivinayak Temple, Mumbai
 - Ashtavinayak Temples, Maharashtra
 - Sarasbaug Ganapati Temple, Pune
 - Chintamani Ganapati, Theur (Ashtavinayak)
-

18. Visitor Comments

- *"The most divine Ganesha idol I've ever seen."*
 - *"Beautiful and well-maintained temple with amazing gold decoration."*
 - *"Felt inner peace just by looking at the idol."*
 - *"Crowded during festivals, but worth every second."*
-

19. Additional Info

- **Photography:** Allowed outside the sanctum.
 - **Language Support:** Volunteers available for Hindi, Marathi, and English.
 - **Temple runs educational and cultural programs year-round.**
-

Ref: dagdushethganpati.com

Dagdusheth Ganpati

History

The deity of Lord Ganesha was incepted by Shri Dagdusheth Halwai and his wife Lakshmibai way back, when they lost their only son to the plague epidemic. Every year, the Ganpati festival was celebrated with deep faith and enthusiasm, not only by Dagdusheth's family but the entire neighborhood. Tatyasaheb Godse, then in his early youth, was a zestful participant in the celebrations. In later years, when Lokmanya Tilak made Ganpati festival a public celebration to bring people together for the freedom struggle, Dagdusheth Ganpati became the most respected and popular idol in Pune.

In 1952, the responsibility of organizing the festival at Shrimant Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati temple officially fell upon Tatyasaheb and his group of friends. Under Tatyasaheb's able guidance and leadership, his associates like Mamasahab Rasane, Adv. Shankarrao Suryavanshi and K. D. Rasane planned and executed the festival with meticulous planning and professionalism, and since then, there was no looking back for them. As generous donors and devotees contributed towards the temple fund, Tatyasaheb and his friends thought what better way to worship the Lord than to serve our own fellow beings.

Soon, the young motivated group took the activities of the festival and the temple beyond traditional worship, into the domain of social and cultural development. Besides a rich religious schedule at the temple, they engaged in addressing the social and political problems of the state.

Under the aegis of Dagdusheth Halwai Sarvajanic Ganpati Trust, they started several social initiatives including educational and financial support to deprived children, micro finance to small businessmen and vendors through Suvarnayug Sahakari Bank, old age home, and rehabilitation of workers working at brick kilns, to name a few.

Today, by Lord Ganesha's blessings, Shrimant Dagdusheth Halwai Sarvajanic Ganpati Trust has flourished into a veteran organization that is gratified to worship the Lord through its service to humanity.

Temple Schedule

Daily Schedule

TIME	RITUAL / ACTIVITY
05:30 AM TO 11:00 PM	Darshan For Devotees
06:00 AM TO 07:15 AM	Abhishek Shrungar
07:30 AM TO 07:45 AM	Suprabhatam Aarti (Morning Aarti or Prayer)
08:15 AM TO 01:30 PM	Darshan For Devotees
01:30 PM TO 02:00 PM	Naivedyam Aarti
02:00 PM TO 03:00 PM	Darshan For Devotees
03:00 PM TO 03:15 PM	Madhyana Aarti
03:15 PM TO 08:00 PM	Darshan For Devotees
08:00 PM TO 09:00 PM	Mahamangal Aarti
08:15 PM TO 10:30 PM	Darshan For Devotees
10:30 PM TO 10:45 PM	Shejarti
10:45 TO 11:00 PM	Darshan For Devotees

Festival Schedule

DATE	FESTIVAL
13th February 2024	Ganesh Janm (Shri Vinayak Avtar)
10th April 2024	Vallabhesh Mangalam
28th April 2024	Mogra Festival
10th May 2024	Mango Festival (Akshay Tithiya)
23rd May 2024	Coconut Festival (Vaishakhi Purnima)
10th June 2024	Sheshatmaj Ganesh Janma (Jeshth Shuddha Jayanti)
26th August 2024	Shri Krishna Janmotsav
7th September 2024	Sarvajanic Ganesh Utsav (Bhadrapad Shuddha Chaturthi)
5th November 2024	Umangmalaj Ganesh Janm
15th November 2024	Tripurari Purnima
2nd December 2024	Dev Dipawali

Upcoming Schedule

TIME	RITUAL / ACTIVITY
1st May 2025, Thursday	Maharashtra Day
1st May 2025, Thursday	Vinayaki Chaturthi
12th May 2025, Monday	Shahale Mahotsav
12th May 2025, Monday	Siddhi Janmotsav
14th May 2025, Wednesday	Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj Jayanti
16th May 2025, Friday	Sankashti Chaturthi
30th May 2025, Friday	Sheshatmaj (Ganesh Jayanti)

Festivals

Every year, the Shreemant Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple comes alive with a vibrant and spiritually uplifting celebration in the form of festivals that draw devotees and enthusiasts from all corners. Nestled in the heart of Pune, India, this iconic temple is renowned for its grandeur, rich history, and deep spiritual significance. The festivals held at this temple are not merely events, but rather a confluence of devotion, culture, and tradition that create an atmosphere of joy, unity, and reverence. These annual celebrations serve as a bridge between the past and the present, embodying the essence of devotion while offering a platform for devotees to come together, offer their prayers, and partake in the exuberant festivities. From elaborate processions to melodious bhajans, these festivals are a testament to the unwavering faith of the people and the temple's enduring legacy in spreading divine grace and blessings.





Sunflower Festival

Sunflower Festival includes a colorful display of sunflowers across the temple – inside out.



Vallabhesh Mangalam

Vallabhesh Mangalam is the unique celebration for the wedding of Shri. Ganesh and Devi Vallabha.



Mango Festival

Mango Festival is an annual extravaganza is celebrated on the occasion of Akshaya Tritiya.



Mogra Festival

Mogra Festival has a mesmerizing blend of spirituality and sensory delight.



Coconut Festival

Coconut Festival is celebrated on Pustipati Vinayak Jayanati that falling on the Vaishak Purnima.



Shardesh Mangalam

Shardesh Mangalam is celebrated on Akshaya Tritiya to mark the marriage of Lord Ganesha and Devi Sharda.



Sheshatmaj Ganesh Jayanti

Sheshatmaj Jayanti is celebrated on Jeshth Shuddha Vinayaki Chaturthi.



Atirudra Mahayag

The Atirudra Mahayag is a grand Vedic ritual organized during the holy month of Chaturmas.



Chaturmas Pravachan

Chaturmas Pravachan involves spiritual leaders enlightening devotees about ancient scriptures.



Chaturmas Kirtan

Chaturmas Kirtan is a melodious program organized during the auspicious Chaturmas period.



Ganesh Utsav

Ganesh Utsav is a monumental celebration that honors the divine essence of Lord Ganesha.



Tripurari Purnima

Tripurari Purnima is observed on the full moon day of the Kartik month to honor Lord Shiva.



Dahi Handi

The joyous and energetic Dahi Handi festival is a grand celebration of the birth of Lord Krishna.



Music Festival

Music Festival is organized from Gudi Padwa to Ram Navami, marking the foundation day of the Temple.

DONATIONS



Generic Donation
Annadan- Meals for the needy



Generic Donation
Pitashri Old age Home



Generic Donation
Rural development



Generic Donation
Medical Camp



Generic Donation
Education for the Underprivileged



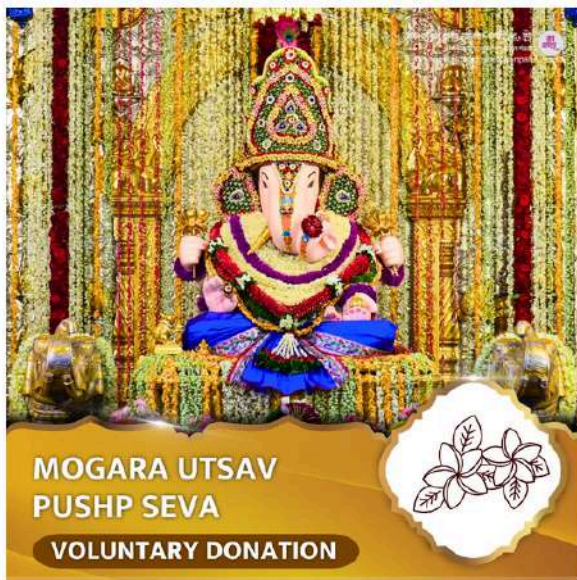
Generic Donation
Tree Plantation



Generic Donation
Water Supply in Drought-Affected Area



Generic Donation
Free Ambulance Seva



Generic Donation
Mogra Mahotsav Voluntary Donation



Generic Donation
Generic Donation

Note: To make a donation go to the Website:

https://seva.dagdushethganpati.com/user_login?eseva_id=MTMy&type=donation

Social initiative by Dagdusheth Ganpati Trust

Watch this video:

<https://youtu.be/FPw4u0zodIE>

Medical assistance - Watch this video:

https://youtu.be/Gs2U_wD5p1s



Jay Ganesh Rugnaseva Campaign

Temple Trust conducts free medical camps in rural areas and slums, offering check-ups, eye and dental care, blood donation, free medicines, and cataract surgeries, and much more to underprivileged individuals.



Palakatva Yojna

The Trust supports bright students with free books, spiritual education, and various activities to nurture their growth, including career guidance and counseling.



Balsangopan

Street vendor's children access modern amenities like computers and digital learning at the Trust's Vocational Junior College, located in Kondwa Pune.



ITI

Trust has established a Government-certified Industrial Training Centre (ITI) to create employment opportunities for rural residents, contributing to rural development.



E-Learning

The Trust provides computer facilities to students in 65 rural schools, benefiting 25,000 students by facilitating regular curriculum learning.



Pitashri Old Age Home

The Trust operates Pitashri Old Age Home in Kondhwa, offering a peaceful residence for 80 elderly individuals with regular health check-ups, meals and much more.



Kushtrogi Audyogik Purvasan

The Trust empowers individuals with leprosy by offering job opportunities, allowing them to lead independent and happy lives.



Free Ambulance Service

Since 1986, the Trust has provided free ambulance service to those under PMC area jurisdiction, with the option for others outside this jurisdiction to avail it by covering fuel charges.



Paryavaran

The Trust commits to planting over 50 lac trees through a tree plantation initiative, conducted during various occasions.



Tanker Seva

Trust provides water tankers in drought-prone areas, disaster-stricken regions, and during Palki Yatras, extending a form of service.



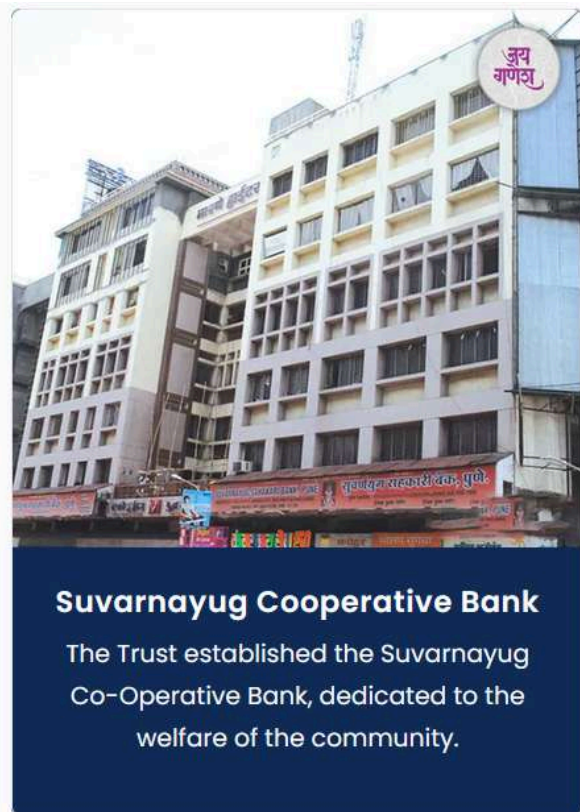
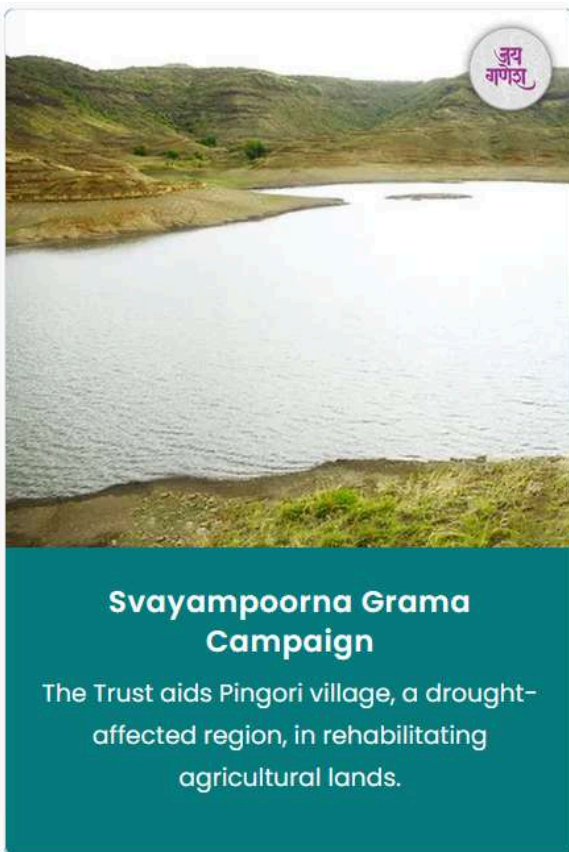
Anna Daan Seva

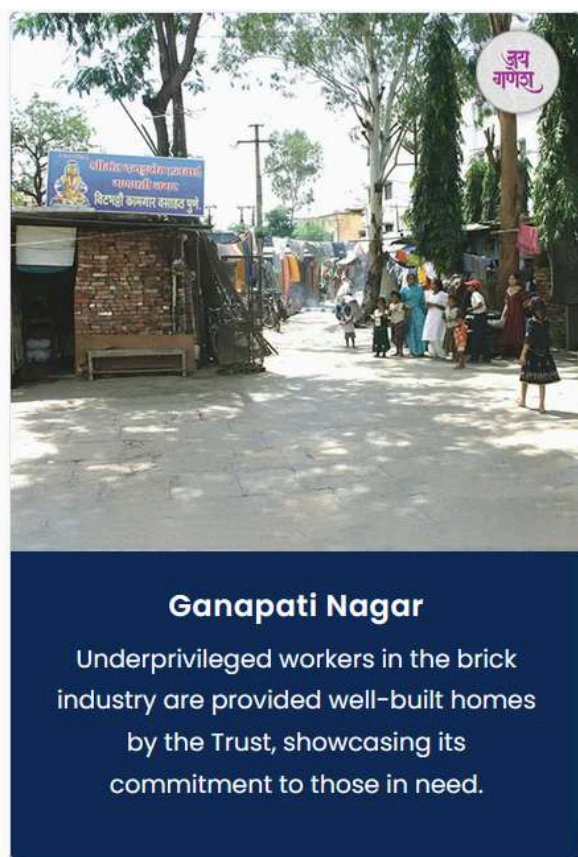
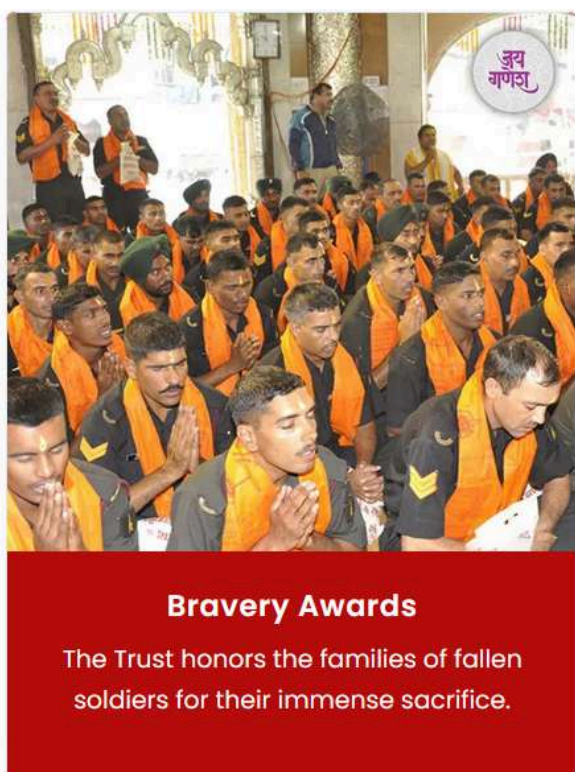
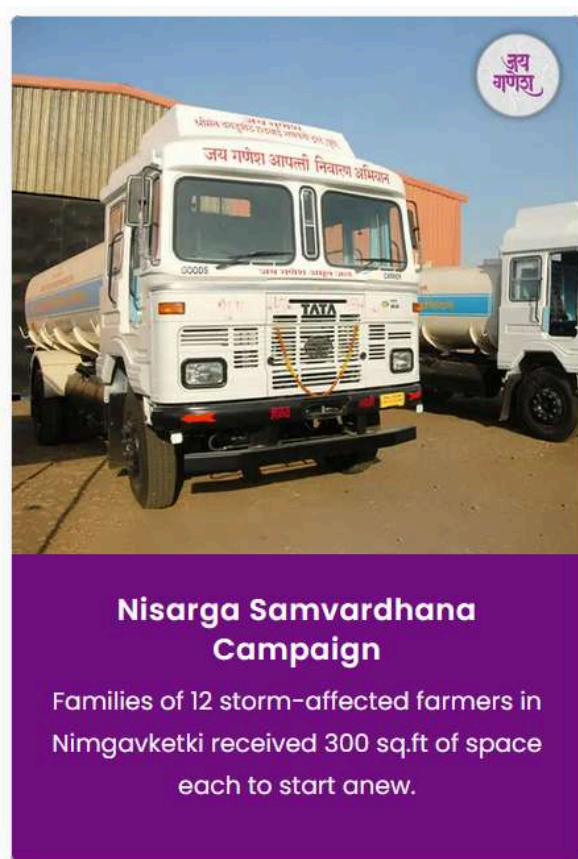
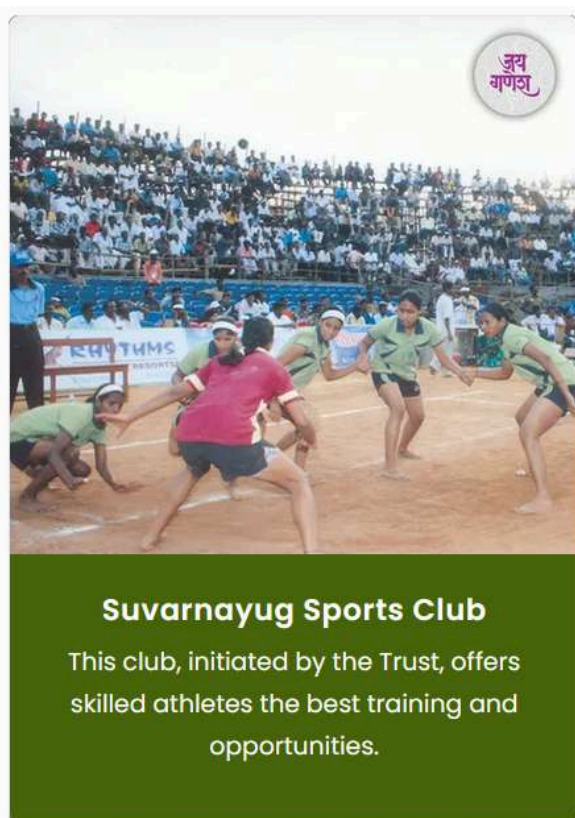
The Trust provides lunch and dinner meals to 3000+ patients at Sassoon Hospital. Additionally, during Sanksahti Chaaturthi, after the evening aarti, Khichadi Prasad is distributed. Warkari brothers are offered breakfast and tea during Ashadi Ekadashi Yatra. Bhojan Prasad is also distributed during Ganesh Janma; and during Adhik Sharavan, the Brahma Vrunda are provided with Bhojan Prasad. Meals are also provided to residents at Pitashri Old Age Home.

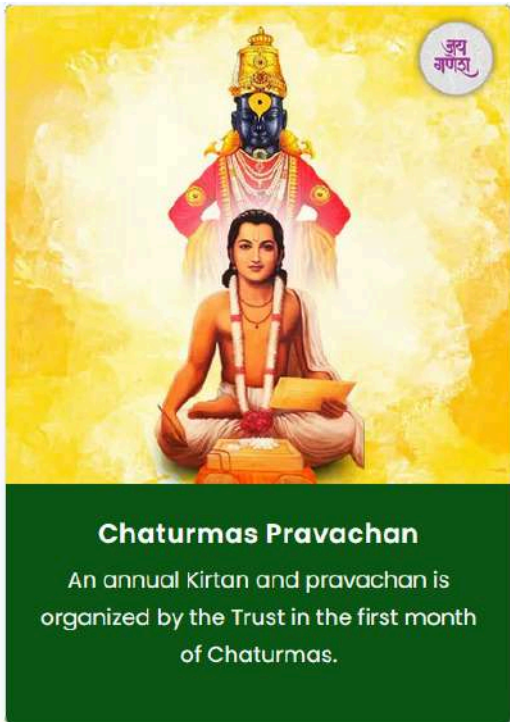
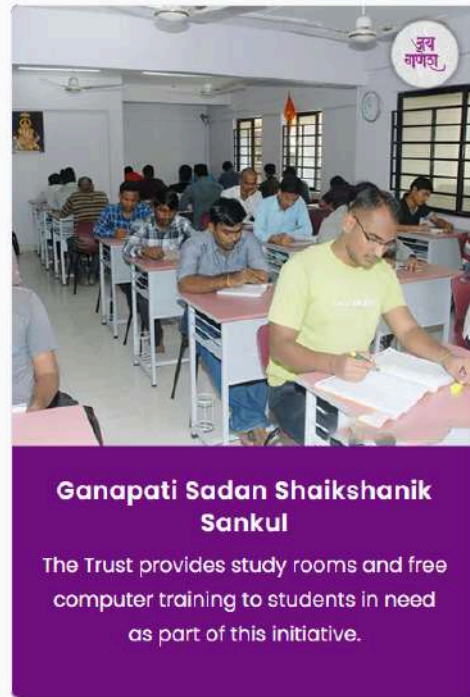


Warkari Seva

The Trust distributes Prasad to Warkaris during Yatras, furthering their devotion and support.







Contact us at: contact.dhgt@gmail.com to get more info about the initiatives.

Frequently Asked Questions

❓ भक्तांच्या नावाने दगडूशेठ गणपती जगविख्यात कसा झाला? —

सन 1968 साली गणपतीची शाडू मातीची नवी मूर्ती तयार करून घेताना त्याच्या पोटात गणेश यंत्र बसवण्यात आलेले आहे. या मूर्तीच्या प्रतिष्ठापनेपासून आजपर्यंत लोकांचा या बाप्पाकडे असलेला ओढा वाढत आहे. या भाविकांच्या धार्मिक श्रद्धांना ट्रस्टने सामाजिक कामाची यथायोग्य जोड दिली तसेच ट्रस्टला या बाप्पाचे पहिले भक्त दगडूशेठ हलवाई यांचे नाव दिल्याने दगडूशेठ गणपती जगविख्यात झाला.

❓ लक्ष्मी रस्ता नाव कसे पडले? —

लक्ष्मीबाई या दगडूशेठ हलवाई यांच्या पत्नी, सात्विक व धार्मिक वृत्तीच्या. त्यांनी गणपती बाप्पा आणि श्री दत्तात्रेय यांची मुलाप्रमाणे मनोभावे सेवा केली. त्यांच्या पश्चात त्यांचे नाव गणपती उत्सव साजरा होतो त्या ठिकाणापासून डेक्कनजिमखानापर्यंतच्या रस्त्याला देण्यात आले.

❓ देवदासींची मुले समाजात ताठ मानेने आज कशी उभी राहिली? —

श्रीमंत दगडूशेठ हलवाई गणपतीच्या उत्सवाच्या परिसरातच देवदासींची वस्ती आहे. या देवदासींच्या मुलांसाठी ट्रस्टने कोंढव्यात बालसंगोपन केंद्र सुरू केले. त्यांच्या रहाण्याची, खाण्यापिण्याची तजवीज करतानाच त्यांच्या शिक्षणाकडेही लक्ष दिले त्यामुळेच देवदासींची मुले समाजात आज ताठ मानेने उभी राहिली आहेत.

❓ श्रीमंत दगडूशेठ हलवाई गणपतीची स्थापना कोणाच्या प्रेरणेतून झाली? —

लोकमान्य टिळकांनी सार्वजनिक गणेशोत्सव साजरा करण्याचे आवाहन केल्यावर 1893 साली दगडूशेठ हलवाई यांनी पुढाकार घेऊन बाहुलीच्या हौदावर गणेशोत्सव सुरू केला.

❓ समाजातील व्देष, अंधःकार, जातीपातीतील दरी दूर करण्यासाठी 1972 च्या उत्सवात कोणते पाऊल उचलले— गेले? —

गणेशोत्सव सर्व समावेशक होण्यासाठी 1972 साली दलित व मेहेतर समाजाच्या जोडप्यांच्याकडून गणपती बाप्पाची पूजा व आरती करून ट्रस्टने नवा आदर्श समाजापुढे ठेवला.

❓ कोणत्या राष्ट्रपतींनी दगडूशेठ गणपतीबाप्पाची उत्सवात येऊन आरती केली? —

भारताचे राष्ट्रपती फकुद्दीन अली अहमद यांनी गणेशोत्सवात येऊन दगडूशेठ गणपती बाप्पांची आरती केली.

❶ अंधश्रद्धेला खतपाणी घालणा-या गणपती दूध पितो या विषयात दगडूशेठ ट्रस्टची भूमिका काय होती? —

गणपती दूध पितो अशी अफवा महाराष्ट्रात झपाट्याने पसरली आणि लोक दूध घेऊन गणपती मंदिरासमोर रांगा करून उभे राहू लागले. हीच बाब त्यावेळच्या ट्रस्टींना समजल्यावर त्यांनी, "आमचा गणपती दूध पित नाही कोणीही दूध आणू नये" असा फलकच चक्क गणपती मंदिराबाहेर लावून मंदिर दर्शनासाठी बंद करून अंधश्रद्धेला वाव दिला नाही.

❷ गणेशोत्सवाच्या माध्यमातून ट्रस्टने राष्ट्रीय एकात्मता कशी साधली? —

गणेशोत्सवात विविध सजावटी करताना देशातील विविध राज्यातील सांस्कृतिक व धार्मिक, अध्यात्मिक वैभवाचे प्रतीक असलेले महाल, राजवाडे आणि मंदिरांच्या प्रतिकृतीच सजावट म्हणून करत ट्रस्टने राष्ट्रीय एकात्मता साधली.

❸ दिशाहिन झालेल्या सार्वजनिक गणेशोत्सवाला योग्य दिशा देण्यासाठी उचललेले पहिले पाऊल कोणते? —

ओंगळ स्वरूप झालेल्या सार्वजनिक गणेशोत्सवाला योग्य दिशा देण्यासाठी ट्रस्टने उत्सवात धार्मिक उपचारांना प्राधान्य दिले. उत्सवात रोमंभा - सोमबा सारख्या हिंदीस गाण्यांचा वार टाळण्याचे आवाहन करून स्पीकरांचा अनावश्यक वापर बंद केला आणि सर्व गणेश मंडळांसाठी राष्ट्रीय गणेशोत्सव स्पर्धेचे आयोजन केले आणि गणेश मंडळांसाठी 40 कलमी आचार संहिता तयार केली. यामध्ये मंडळाने वर्षभर समाजासाठी राबविलेल्या सामाजिक कार्य व उपक्रम प्रमुख निकष ठेवला.

❹ सर्व समाजाच्या समावेशकतेसाठी व विद्यार्थ्यांवर संस्कार करण्यासाठी उचललेले पहिले पाऊल कोणते? —

सर्व समाजाच्या समावेशकतेसाठी व विद्यार्थ्यांवर संस्कार करण्यासाठी गणेशोत्सवात पहाटे शालेय विद्यार्थ्यांचे गणपती अथर्वशीर्ष पठणाचा उपक्रम उत्सव मंडपात सुरू केला.

❺ महिलांचा उत्सवातील सहभाग वाढवण्यासाठी उचललेले पहिले पाऊल कोणते? —

गणेशोत्सवातील महिलांचा सहभाग वाढवण्यासाठी 1987 सालापासून गणेशोत्सवात ऋषीपंचमीच्या दिवशी महिलांसाठी गणेश पूजन व सामूहिक अथर्वशीर्ष पठणाचा कार्यक्रम सुरू केला.

❻ समाज प्रबोधनासाठी सुरू केलेल्या शिवजयंती व्याख्यानमालेत कोणकोणत्या नामवंतांनी सहभाग घेतला? —

समाज प्रबोधनासाठी सुरू केलेल्या शिवजयंती व्याख्यानमालेत प्राचार्य शिवाजीराव भोसले, शिवशाहीर बाबासाहेब पुरंदरे, एस. एम. जोशी, कॉम्रेड डांगे, ग. प्र. प्रधान, यशवंतराव चव्हाण, बाळासाहेब भारदे, सेतुमाधवराव पगडी रामभाऊ म्हळगी अशा अनेक नामवंतांनी सहभाग घेतला आहे.

❼ समाजातील आर्थिक दुर्बल घटकांना न्याय देण्यासाठी उचललेले पाऊल कोणते? —

2 ऑक्टोबर 1973 रोजी आर्थिक दुर्बल घटकाना अर्थ सहाय्य करण्यासाठी सुवर्णयुग सहकारी बँकेची स्थापना केली. समाजातील आर्थिक दुर्बल घटकांना न्याय देण्यासाठी ट्रस्टने वीट भट्टी कामगारांना मालकी हक्काची घरे बांधून दिली. त्यामुळे कष्टकऱ्यांच्या श्रमांना प्रतिष्ठा प्राप्त झाली.

❓ रूग्ण वाहिका सेवेचा शुभारंभ कोणत्या उपक्रमाने झाला? —

ट्रस्टच्या रूग्ण वाहिका, सेवेचा शुभारंभ, सन 1986 साली, सुवर्णयुग तरुण मंडळाच्या, कार्यकर्त्यांनी समाजातून काढलेल्या लोक वर्गणीतून झाला. रूग्णवाहिका व जिल्ह्यातील पोलिओ निर्मूलन रूग्णवाहिकेद्वारे झाला.

❓ कर्तृत्ववान व्यक्तींच्या कार्याचा सन्मान कसा केला? —

समाजातील कर्तृत्ववान व्यक्तींचा कृतज्ञता पुरस्काराने गौरव करून त्यांच्या कार्याचा सन्मान ट्रस्टने सन ----- केला आहे.

❓ पंढरपूरच्या आषाढवारीतील योगदान काय आहे? —

पंढरपूरच्या आषाढी वारीत ट्रस्टच्यावतीने पायी चालणा-या वारक-यांवर आजारपणात मोफत उपचार करण्यासाठी तीन रूग्णवाहिका, डॉक्टरांचे पथक आणि ओषधे, पाण्याचे दोन टँकर दरवर्षी सेवा म्हणून पाठवण्यात येतात. दोन्ही पालख्यांचे मंदिराजवळ स्वागत बुंदीवाटप करून केले जाते. पुणे मुक्कामी पालख्या असताना सुमारे 2500 वारक्यांना सकाळी नाष्टा , आरोग्य तपासणी केली जाते. वाल्हे मुक्कामी 15000 वारक्यांकरीता भोजन प्रसादाची व्यवस्था केली जाते.

❓ दगडूशेठचा संगीत महोत्सव कसा सुरू झाला? —

दगडूशेठ हलवाई गणपतीचे बुधवारपेठेतील कोतवाल चावडी येथे 1984 साली मंदिर झाले. या मंदिराच्या वधपिन दिनाच्या निमित्ताने ट्रस्टने रसिकांसाठी गुढीपाडवा ते रामनवमी असे संगीत महोत्सव त्या वर्षीपासून मोफत आयोजित करण्यास सुरुवात केली.

❓ सुवर्णयुग तरुण मंडळाच्या कार्यकर्त्यांनी रंगमंचावर गाजलेल्या कोणत्या ऐतिहासिक नाटकाचा प्रयोग केला? —

सुवर्णयुग तरुण मंडळाच्या कार्यकर्त्यांनी बेबंदशाही या गाजलेल्या ऐतिहासिक नाटकाचा प्रयोग केला होता. या नाटकात मंडळाच्या कार्यकर्त्यांनी स्वतः सर्व व्यक्तिरेखा साकारल्या उत्तम नियोजन करून सर्व प्रयोग हाऊसफुल करून यशस्वी केले.

❓ “वाटचाल देवमंदिरा बरोबर मानवसेवेच्या महामंदीराकडे” ही संकल्पना ट्रस्टने कधी आणली ? —

गणपती बाप्पांच्या मंदिराच्या स्थापनेपासून सन 1984 पासून ट्रस्टने वाटचाल देवमंदिराबरोबरच मानवसेवेच्या महामंदिराकडे ही संकल्पना आणली आणि कामाला सुरुवात केली.

❓ गणेशोत्सवातील मातीच्या मूर्तीच्या पहिल्यांदा मंदिर कधी व कुठे बांधले? —

श्रीमंत दगडूशेठ हलवाई गणपतीचे गणेशोत्सवातील मातीच्या मूर्तीचे पहिले मंदिर बुधवार पेठेतील बुधवार चौका जवळ 2 एप्रिल 1984 साली झाले.

❓ या मंदिराचा विस्तार कधी केला? मंदिरात चांदीच्या मूर्तीची प्रतिष्ठापना का केली आहे? —

या मंदिराचा विस्तार सन 2005 साली करण्यात आला. विस्तारीत मंदिरावर कळस आहे आणि गणपती बाप्पाची मूर्ती दरवर्षी उत्सवासाठी कोतवाल चावडी येथे नेण्यात येत असल्याने ती चल मूर्ती आहे. मंदिरावर कळस चढवायचा असेल तर शास्त्रानुसार मंदिरात स्थिर मूर्तीची प्रतिष्ठापना करणे आवश्यक असते. म्हणून मंदिरात चांदीच्या मूर्तीची प्रतिष्ठापना करण्यात आली आहे.

❓ गणेशोत्सवात गणेश याग करण्याची परंपरा कधी सुरु केली? त्याचे पौरोहित्य कुणी केले? —

गणेशोत्सवातील गणेश याग करण्याची परंपरा ट्रस्टने सन 1974 पासून सुरु केली. तेव्हा त्याचे पौरोहित्य श्री किंजवडेकर शास्त्री, श्री यशवंत राहुरकर आणि श्री नटराजशास्त्री यांनी केले होते. ही परंपरा आज श्री नटराजशास्त्री आणि श्री मिलिंद राहुरकर पुढे चालवत आहेत.

❓ ट्रस्टने शताब्दी महोत्सव कधी साजरा केला? —

ट्रस्टने शताब्दी महोत्सव 1992 साली साजरा केला.

❓ या शताब्दी महोत्सवाचे ठळक वैशिष्ट्य काय होते? —

या शताब्दी महोत्सवात सलग 58 दिवस सणस मैदानावर धार्मिक कार्यक्रम, प्रवचन, किर्तन, भजन, व्याख्यानमाला, संगीत महोत्सव असे भरणे कार्यक्रमांचे आयोजन करण्यात आले होते. हे सर्व कार्यक्रम भाविक, रसिकांसाठी मोफत होते. तीनशे फूट फ्रंटेज असलेल्या भव्य बिकानेर राजवाड्याची विलोभनीय प्रतिकृती आणि त्या समोरील वैविध्यपूर्ण सांगीतिक कारंजे हे शताब्दी महोत्सवाचे मुख्य आकर्षण ठरले.

❓ शताब्दी महोत्सवाच्या निमित्ताने कोणता नवा उपक्रम सुरु केला? —

शताब्दी महोत्सवाच्या निमित्ताने ट्रस्टने सुवर्णयुग स्पोर्ट्स क्लब ह्या मुलींच्या कबड्डी संघाची स्थापना करून नविन उपक्रम सुरु केला.

❓ शताब्दी वर्षात कोणत्या खेळांच्या स्पर्धा ट्रस्टने आयोजित केल्या होत्या ? —

शताब्दी महोत्सवाच्या निमित्ताने ट्रस्टने सुवर्णयुग स्पोर्ट्स क्लब हा महिला खेळाडूंचा कबड्डी, खो-खो, हिंद केसरी संघ सुरु केला. गणेशोत्सवात महिलांचा सहभाग वाढण्यासाठी उत्सवात ऋषी पंचमीच्या दिवशी महिलांचे अथर्वशीर्ष पठण व महाआरतीचा कार्यक्रम आयोजित करण्यास सुरुवात केली.

❓ पिताश्री वृद्धाश्रम आणि बालसंगोपन केंद्र कुठे आहे? हे उपक्रम कधी सुरु केले? —

पिताश्री वृद्धाश्रम आणि बालसंगोपन केंद्र हे कोंढवा येथे आहे. बालसंगोपन केंद्र 1985 साली तर वृद्धाश्रम 2004 साली सुरु करण्यात आले.

❓ ग्रामीण भागातील तरुणांना रोजगार सहजपणे मिळावता यावा म्हणून ट्रस्टने कोणती संस्था सुरु केली? —

सन 2006 साली ग्रामीण भागातील तरुणांना रोजगार मिळावा यासाठी ट्रस्टने अत्यल्प फी मध्ये “आयटीआय” कोंढवा येथे सुरु केले. काही वर्षांपूर्वी व्होकेशनल कॉलेज सुरु केले आहे.

❓ जय गणेश म्हणून अभिवादन करायला ट्रस्टने कधी सुरुवात केली? —

गणपती बाप्पाचे नवीन मंदीर झाल्यावर ट्रस्टने जय गणेश म्हणून एकमेकांना अभिवादन करण्यास सुरुवात केली.

Contact Us



E-Sevas



Abhishek

Daily Maha-Abhishek (Nitya Abhishek)

₹ 251.00

Daily Maha-Abhishek (Nitya Abhishek) :

Day: Every Day

Rituals: Sankalpa, Panchopachar, Abhishek with Panchamrut of 1 Cycle, Lord Ganesha's Aarti, and Prasad...

quick view

BOOK



Abhishek

Shri Ganpati Sukta Abhishek

₹ 501.00

Shree Ganpati Sukta Abhishek

Day: Tuesday

Rituals: 1 Atharvashirsha Aavartan, 5 Sukta Ganesh Pathan Abhishek, Lord Ganesha's Aarti and Prasad...

quick view

BOOK

See the Website for more E-Sevas:

<https://seva.dagdushethganpati.com/eseva>

Get in touch



Ref: makemytrip.com

Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple .

Dedicated to Lord Ganesha, this ancient temple was built by a sweet seller named Dagdusheth Halwai and his wife Lakshmibai in the memory of their son.

Timings

6:00 am - 11:00 pm

Suggested Duration

1 to 2 hours

What to expect?

Offer prayers and attend the various rituals and prayer ceremonies. Famous for its annual Ganeshotsav festival, the stunning Ganesha idol is a treat to the eyes.

Tips

- 1. The timings are from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- 2. There's no entry fees.
- 3. The timings of the morning Aarti are from 7:30 a.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Dagdusheth Temple, Pune

Dagdusheth Temple, also known as Shreemant Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple, is a renowned Hindu temple located in Pune, **Maharashtra**. This remarkable temple pays homage to Lord Ganesha, renowned for his power to break down barriers and grant blessings. As one of Maharashtra's most beloved Ganesh shrines, it holds an esteemed place of reverence among its faithful visitors.

The founding of the Dagdusheth Temple by Shreemant Dagdusheth Halwai and his wife, Lakshmibai, took place in the late 19th century. Shreemant Dagdusheth Halwai, a sweet vendor by profession, was a devoted follower of Lord Ganesha. Their small boy, whose memory the temple honours, passed away. The temple still exists as a testament to faith, devotion, and respect.

Dagdusheth Temple is known for:	Its striking idols of Lord Ganesha, philanthropic activities, and Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations.
Timings:	Opens: 6 A.M. Closes: 11 P.M.
Entry Fee:	Not applicable
Tips & Restrictions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• August and September are the finest seasons to visit the temple.• Leather items, electronic devices, weapons or sharp objects, non-vegetarian food, and alcohol, or smoke are prohibited within Dagdusheth Temple.
Facilities:	Puja and aarti, donations, clean restrooms and drinking water facilities, and annadan.
Required Time:	2 to 3 hours (approx.)

Best time to Visit Dagdusheth Temple

Dagdusheth Temple can be visited throughout the year, but certain periods are considered the best time to experience its vibrant atmosphere and festivities. The ideal time to visit Dagdusheth Temple is during the Ganesh Chaturthi festival, which usually falls between August and September. Apart from Ganesh Chaturthi, visiting the temple during weekdays or non-peak hours is also recommended to avoid large crowds. This allows for a more serene and personal experience of offering prayers and seeking blessings.

More About Dagdusheth Temple, Pune

One of the striking features of Dagdusheth Temple is its magnificent idol of Lord Ganesha. The gold-and-jewel-encrusted idol is about 2.2 m tall and 1.8 m wide. Throughout the year, devotees swarm the temple, but the Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations are especially stunning. During this time, the temple comes alive with elaborate decorations, devotional music, and vibrant processions. During this auspicious time, devotees offer prayers and ask for blessings as the idol of Lord Ganesha is lavishly decked with flowers and jewellery.

The temple's design combines traditional and contemporary elements. The main shrine emanates a sense of grandeur and tranquility and is embellished with beautiful carvings and ornaments. The temple's interior is decorated with vibrant frescoes and murals that depict diverse scenes from Hindu mythology, evoking a fervent spiritual atmosphere.

Dagdusheth Temple Services

- The temple organises **annadan**, a charitable act of providing free meals, especially during specific occasions or festivals.
- The temple holds several Lord Ganesha-related **pujas (rituals) and aartis (devotional ceremonies)**.
- The temple accepts **donations from** followers and uses them towards the care and growth of the temple complex and its activities.
- The temple provides **spiritual guidance to** devotees who require it for their personal lives.
- The temple actively engages in **community service activities**. It may involve providing educational assistance, healthcare facilities, and support to underprivileged sections of society.

Dagdusheth Temple Prayer

The primary Ganesha image, which is exquisitely decorated and kept in the temple's sanctum sanctorum, is approached by worshippers. Many hymns and mantras are chanted

in adoration of Lord Ganesha by followers. The popular chant "Om Gan Ganapataye Namaha" is commonly recited as a means of invoking blessings and seeking the divine grace of the deity. Devotees may also perform pradakshina (circumambulation) around the idol of Lord Ganesha.

Dagdusheth Temple Aarti

The Aarti schedule at Dagdusheth Temple may vary depending on the specific days and festivals. Here is a general outline of the Aarti schedule at Dagdusheth Temple:

Kakad Aarti: Kakad Aarti is the morning aarti performed during the early hours of the day, just before sunrise.

Madhyan Aarti: Madhyan Aarti is the midday aarti conducted during the afternoon.

Dhoop Aarti: Dhoop Aarti is the evening Aarti performed during sunset hours.

Shej Aarti: Shej Aarti is the night Aarti, conducted before the temple closes for the day. It is performed after sunset, signifying the resting and retirement of Lord Ganesha for the night. Dagdusheth Temple, dedicated to Lord Ganesha, also holds special Aarti ceremonies on significant occasions and festivals. Some of the notable special aartis are Ganesh Chaturthi Aarti, Diwali Aarti, Gudi Padwa Aarti, Sankashti Chaturthi Aarti, and Maghi Ganesh Jayanti Aarti.

Nearby Tourist Spots

Here are some popular attractions located near Dagdusheth Temple:

- **Shaniwar Wada**
- Pataleshwar Cave Temple
- Lal Mahal
- **Raja Dinkar Kelkar Museum**
- **Empress Botanical Garden**
- **Sinhagad Fort**
- Saras Baug
- Pune Okayama Friendship Garden
- **Aga Khan Palace**

Restaurants and Local Food in Dagdusheth Temple

Dagdusheth Temple offers a variety of options for dining and enjoying local cuisine in its surrounding areas, such as:

- **Sujata Mastani:** Known for its delectable mastani (a popular **Pune**-style milkshake), Sujata Mastani is a renowned local eatery located near the temple.

- **Good Luck Cafe:** Good Luck Cafe is a popular vegetarian restaurant located near Dagdusheth Temple. It offers a wide array of vegetarian dishes, including Maharashtrian specialities like Misal Pav, Sabudana Vada, and Maharashtrian Thali.
- **Durvankur:** Durvankur is a popular restaurant known for its authentic Maharashtrian thali.

FAQs -

Frequently Asked Questions about Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple:

How to explore a place by yourself?



"Adventure is out there!" - You just need to know the 'whats' and the 'hows' of it. You need to realize the things that will make exploring a place completely worthwhile and satisfy all of your travel cravings. This can be achieved by -

- Taking Yourself Out To Eat At A Restaurant
- Learn The Public Transportation Routes
- Check Out A Local Planetarium Or Observatory
- Take A Drive To The Nearest Coastal Town Or National Park
- Join A Group Of Tourists On A Sightseeing Tour
- Take Pictures At A Botanical Garden
- Go Shopping At A Local Farmers Market

How do you plan for the perfect trip to any destination?

To plan the perfect trip, the following will help cover any caveats for your to arrive at the best plan for your vacations :

- When you plan a trip you should also research about the must-visit attractions and the best free things to do in your destination of choice
- Know the visa requirements for visiting the destination
- Depending on where you are planning your trip in a particular country, it's important to get the correct advice for any necessary vaccinations that needs to be taken care of before your travel dates
- Make copies of your important documents and keep them handy

How to choose a destination to travel to?

Travelling is exhilarating - and a little bit intimidating too. You are venturing into the unknown and you really have very little ideas about what things will be like there when you arrive. It's always a massive learning curve when you leap into the new (which is why it's important to thoroughly research a travel destination before you go.) Some of the important things to keep in mind while deciding on a destination to travel are :

- Figure out how to travel to a destination, where to stay and what are the things to do amongst other things. Trip Ideas by MakeMyTrip brings you a plethora of knowledge about a destination ranging from images and videos to lists of all the activities
- Read posts by travel bloggers who have been there and if needed email them
- Watch documentaries and reach out to people who have been there

Destinations close to Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple

Bhandardara	Palghar	Vapi	Panchgani
Thane	Aurangabad	Sangli	Tuljapur
Diveagar	Dapoli	Tarkarli	Malshej Ghat
Matheran	Murud Janjira	Silvassa	Lavasa
Pune	Lonavala & Khandala	Malvan	Kalyan

More Things to Do Near Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple

Trek to the 17th Century Shivneri Fort, Pune	Seek Blessings at Parvati Hill Temple, Pune	Seek Spiritual Bliss at Osho Meditation Resort, Pune	Hike up to Rajgarh Fort, Pune
The House of Medici, Pune	Take a stroll in the iconic Okayama Friendship Garden, Pune	blueFrog, Pune	Visit the Famous Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park, Pune
Aga Khan Palace, Pune	Shabree Restaurant, Pune	Oak Lounge, Pune	Go shopping on MG Road, Pune
Raja Dinkar Kelkar Museum, Pune	Coco Sushi and Bar, Pune	Mi-a-mi, Pune	Vaishali, Pune
Chateau Indage, Pune			

Ref: wanderon.in

Dagadusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple: A Must-Visit Pilgrimage In Pune



The Dagadusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple is one of the most revered and iconic temples in Pune, Maharashtra. Dedicated to Lord Ganesha, this temple is not only a religious landmark but also a symbol of the city's rich cultural heritage.

Pune is one of the most famous and most visited [places to visit in Maharashtra](#).

Whether you're a devout follower of Ganesha or a traveller interested in exploring Pune's spiritual and architectural marvels, the Dagadusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple is a place you should not miss.

This blog will guide you through everything you need to know about this majestic temple, from its history to the best time to visit, and more.

The Legacy Of Shreemant Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Mandir

The Shreemant Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Mandir is not just another temple; it's an institution in itself. The temple was established over a century ago by a successful sweet maker, Dagadusheth Halwai, who built it in memory of his late son.

Today, it stands as a symbol of faith and devotion, attracting millions of devotees from across the world.

The temple is especially famous during the Ganesh Chaturthi festival when it becomes a hub of spiritual activities and cultural events.

Dagadusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple History

Understanding the Dagadusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple history adds depth to your visit. The temple was founded in 1893 by Dagadusheth Halwai, a prominent sweet trader in Pune. The loss of his son led him to build this temple, and the idol of Lord Ganesha was installed as a symbol of solace and hope.

Lokmanya Tilak, the freedom fighter, also used the temple as a platform to encourage unity among the people during British rule.

Over the years, the temple has grown in stature, not just as a place of worship but as a community centre that plays a significant role in Pune's social and cultural fabric.

Dagadusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple Architecture

One of the highlights of the temple is its magnificent architecture. The Dagadusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple architecture is a blend of traditional Hindu temple design with modern elements. The temple's façade is adorned with intricate carvings and ornamental designs, reflecting the artistry of the craftsmen.

The Ganesha idol inside the temple is around 7.5 feet tall and 4 feet wide, making it one of the largest idols in Pune. The idol is decorated with gold and precious jewels, making it a sight to behold.

The temple's architecture not only adds to its aesthetic appeal but also enhances the spiritual ambiance, making it a serene place for worship.

Dagadusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple Aarti Timings

To fully experience the spiritual aura of the temple, attending the Aarti is a must. The Dagadusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple Pune Aarti timings are designed to allow devotees to offer their prayers at different times of the day.

The main Aarti is performed twice daily, once in the morning and once in the evening. The morning Aarti typically takes place around 7:30 AM, while the evening Aarti is held at 7:30 PM.

These Aarti sessions are a mesmerising experience, with the sound of bells, chanting of mantras, and the sight of the beautifully decorated Ganesha idol filling the atmosphere with divine energy.

How To Reach Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple

Getting to the temple is quite convenient, given its central location in Pune. Here's a brief guide on how to reach Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple:

By Air: The nearest airport is Pune International Airport, located about 12 km from the temple. From the airport, you can hire a taxi or use public transport to reach the temple.

By Train: Pune Railway Station is the closest railhead, approximately 3 km from the temple. You can easily find auto-rickshaws or cabs to take you to the temple from the station.

By Bus: The temple is well-connected by the Pune Municipal Transport (PMT) buses. The nearest bus stop is located just a few minutes' walk from the temple.

By Road: If you are driving, the temple is located on Shivaji Road in Budhwar Peth, a central area in Pune. There are several parking spaces available nearby.

Best Time To Visit Dagadusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple

Timing your visit can significantly enhance your experience. The best time to visit Dagadusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple is during the Ganesh Chaturthi festival, which usually falls between August and September.

The temple is beautifully decorated, and the entire city is in a festive mood. However, if you prefer a quieter visit, early mornings and weekdays are ideal.

The weather in Pune is most pleasant between October and February, making it an excellent time for a temple visit. Avoid the peak afternoon hours during summer, as it can get quite hot.

Dagadusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple Location

The Dagadusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple location is in the heart of Pune city, making it easily accessible from various parts of the city.

Situated on Shivaji Road in the Budhwar Peth area, the temple is surrounded by bustling markets and historical sites. Its central location ensures that you can easily include a visit to the temple as part of a larger tour of Pune's attractions.

Top Hotels Near Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple

If you're planning to stay overnight in Pune, there are several top hotels near Dagadusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple that offer comfortable accommodations. Some of the best options include:

JW Marriott Hotel Pune: Located about 4 km from the temple, this luxury hotel offers world-class amenities, including a spa, multiple dining options, and spacious rooms.

Hotel Shreyas: A budget-friendly option located just 2 km from the temple, offering clean and comfortable rooms with easy access to major attractions in Pune.

Ramee Grand Hotel and Spa: Situated about 3 km from the temple, this hotel combines luxury with convenience, making it an excellent choice for both leisure and business travellers.

Places to Visit Near Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple

Pune is rich in history and culture, and there are several places to visit near Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple that you can explore:

Shaniwar Wada: Just a 10-minute walk from the temple, **Shaniwar Wada** is a historic fortification that was the seat of the Peshwas of the Maratha Empire. The fort is known for its grand architecture and the light and sound show that narrates its history.

Raja Dinkar Kelkar Museum: Located about 2 km from the temple, this museum houses a vast collection of artefacts, including sculptures, musical instruments, and everyday objects, offering a glimpse into India's rich cultural heritage.

Laxmi Road: A shopper's paradise, Laxmi Road is just a short walk from the temple. It's one of Pune's busiest shopping streets, known for its traditional sarees, jewellery, and a variety of local goods.

Restaurants Near Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple

After your visit to the temple, you might want to indulge in some delicious food at the restaurants near Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple. Here are a few recommendations:

Sujata Mastani: A short walk from the temple, this iconic eatery is famous for its Mastani, a rich milkshake topped with ice cream, named after the legendary queen Mastani.

Shabree: Located on FC Road, about 2 km from the temple, Shabree is the go-to place for authentic Maharashtrian thalis, offering a variety of traditional dishes.

Vaishali: Another popular spot on FC Road, Vaishali is known for its South Indian delicacies like dosas and idlis, making it a favourite among locals and tourists alike.

Cultural And Social Impact of the Temple

The Dagadusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple Pune is more than just a place of worship. It plays a significant role in the cultural and social life of Pune. The temple organises various cultural programs, social services, and charitable activities throughout the year.

It is also involved in educational initiatives, healthcare, and welfare projects for the underprivileged, making it a pillar of the community.

Festival Celebrations At The Temple

The Ganesh Chaturthi festival is the highlight of the year at the Shreemant Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Mandir. The temple comes alive with vibrant decorations, elaborate rituals, and a series of cultural events.

The festival attracts thousands of devotees, and the idol of Lord Ganesha is adorned with precious jewels and flowers.

The immersion procession on the final day is a grand event, with the idol being taken out in a lavish procession through the streets of Pune, accompanied by music, dance, and prayers.



Volunteer And Donation Opportunities

The temple offers various opportunities for devotees to contribute to its numerous social and charitable initiatives. You can volunteer your time during festivals or other events or contribute financially to the temple's charitable trusts.

Donations can be made online or at the temple, and they go towards various causes, including healthcare, education, and disaster relief.

Photography And Etiquette Tips

While visiting the temple, it's essential to maintain the decorum expected at a place of worship. Photography is generally allowed outside the temple, but it's advisable to check with the temple authorities before clicking pictures inside.

Dress modestly, remove your shoes before entering, and maintain silence to respect the sanctity of the temple. Also, avoid visiting during peak hours if you prefer a peaceful experience.

Final Thoughts

Whether you're a devotee or a traveller, a visit to this temple is a soul-stirring experience that offers a glimpse into the rich traditions and vibrant life of the city.

From its fascinating history and stunning architecture to the lively festivals and community initiatives, the temple is a testament to the enduring legacy of faith and devotion in Pune.

Plan your visit, soak in the divine energy, and be a part of the rich cultural tapestry that is the Dagadusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple.

Ref: [tripadvisor.in](https://www.tripadvisor.in)

Comments by Visitors



Deepak_01

Bengaluru, India • 8,061 contributions

👍 0 ...



A must visit powerful Ganapathi temple.

Mar 2025 • Solo

Powerful old Ganapathi temple in a crowded locality. There are special tickets for quick darshan. Shoe stand outside is well maintained with the staff offering to spray water to clean hands after removing footwear. The temple is congested with hardly any place to sit inside. The darshan on a regular day takes about 15 minutes. There's a temple prasad counter inside the temple premises for laddoos. Digital payments for tickets and prasad is a good. Ganapathi is towering and powerful with an extremely fulfilling feeling during darshan. A must visit temple in Pune.



Written 25 April 2025



Saloni Krishnat Kadam

Pune, India • 71 contributions

👍 0 ...



Peaceful place !!

Mar 2025 • Friends

A must-visit place for devotees and tourists alike, the Dagdusheth Ganpati Temple offers a blend of faith, tradition, and cultural richness. However, for a peaceful experience, visiting during non-peak hours is recommended.



Written 20 March 2025



Sudha

Chennai (Madras), India • 126 contributions

👍 0 ...



Nice temple

Oct 2024 • Family

We visited this temple on our short visit in Pune.

We took an auto and they charged 100 rs to reach this temple from station.

And nice temple ,photos are allowed inside to take .

This temple is nearby famous Laxmi market as well ,so it's quite crowded and people come and go.

Written 9 November 2024



RamaraoKalose

Bengaluru, India • 65 contributions

👍 0 ...



Ganapathi Bappa Morya

Sept 2024 • Family

One of the FAMOUS, beautiful, excellent & Marvelous Ganapathi Temple in Pune
Its is lovely and high blessings Ganapathi in the heart of the city. Special darshan can be opted by paying Rs.100 per person for a quick darshan.
We have locker facilities too

Written 2 September 2024



Harsh & Leena

Pune, India • 3,533 contributions

👍 0 ...



Visit to Pune is not complete if you haven't visited Dagadusheth

Feb 2024 • Family

1. Your Pune visit is not completed if you have not visited Dagadusheth Ganpati.
2. No matter when you visit, there is always a queue however it doesn't take more than 10min.
3. You will feel happy from inside as soon as you are in temple and it is hard to put it in words.
4. Parking for 2 wheeler is challenge here and 4wheeler is nightmare.
5. There is a small window by which you can have darshan without going into queue.
6. Temple is well managed and clean.
7. Timing is 5:00 AM to 10:30 PM (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday)



Written 26 June 2024



Diego L. Rojas Blasco

Spain • 393 contributions

👍 0 ...



Magical

Mar 2024 • Solo

Excellent, what you breathe the energy of this temple is without a doubt impressive

I recommend it, I went first thing in the morning and there were fewer people and in the afternoons they were delivering meals (this is what can be seen in the photographs) and you couldn't enter

translated by Google

Written 29 March 2024



FVB06

Vence, France • 2,288 contributions

👍 1 ...



In the middle of the city: Colorful and devotion of the faithful

Feb 2024 • Couples

Note: contrary to what is said in the other review in French, the Ganatapi temple is in the middle of town, and you do not have to climb any steps

We visited this temple around noon in the middle of the week: crazy atmosphere, people queue to enter, we sing, we shout, we buy flower alms, cakes for the gods... The spectacle is extraordinary. A lot of people are on the sidewalk filming because they may not have time to wait in line. Yes, but we are on the edge of a main street and we risk getting hit at any moment.

Inside there is a ritual being played out and we can see very well without disturbing the faithful.

The temple is also beautiful on the outside

In the middle of the city: Colorful and devotion of the faithful

[Read less](#) ^



translated by Google

Written 2 March 2024



Leo

Pune, India • 8 contributions

👍 1 ...



Peaceful and divine experience

Aug 2023 • Family

Flawless ! The temple isn't crowded at all. Everything is well-managed and clean. There are plenty of shops you can browse from, both inside and outside the temple. They have ample security. The only thing to note is that they don't have a designated parking area for the temple since the surrounding area is a busy one.

Written 2 September 2023



prerak75

Ahmedabad, India • 153 contributions

👍 2 ...



God and grace

Apr 2023 • Family

The most famous place of Pune... Always good to have darshan here.. Also must visit place...Locate in the centre of the city...so better to have rickshaw rather than car

Written 5 July 2023

Photos













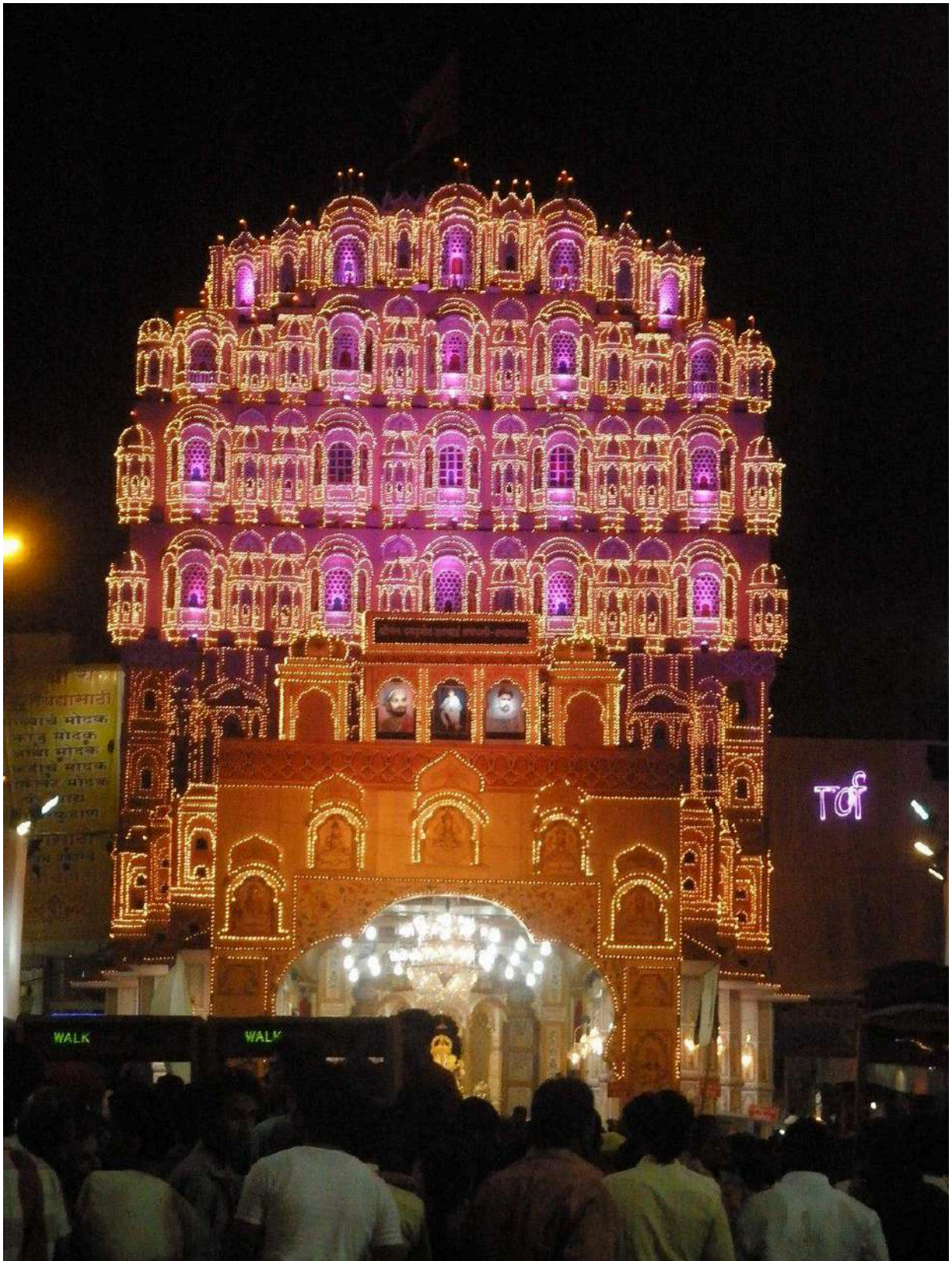




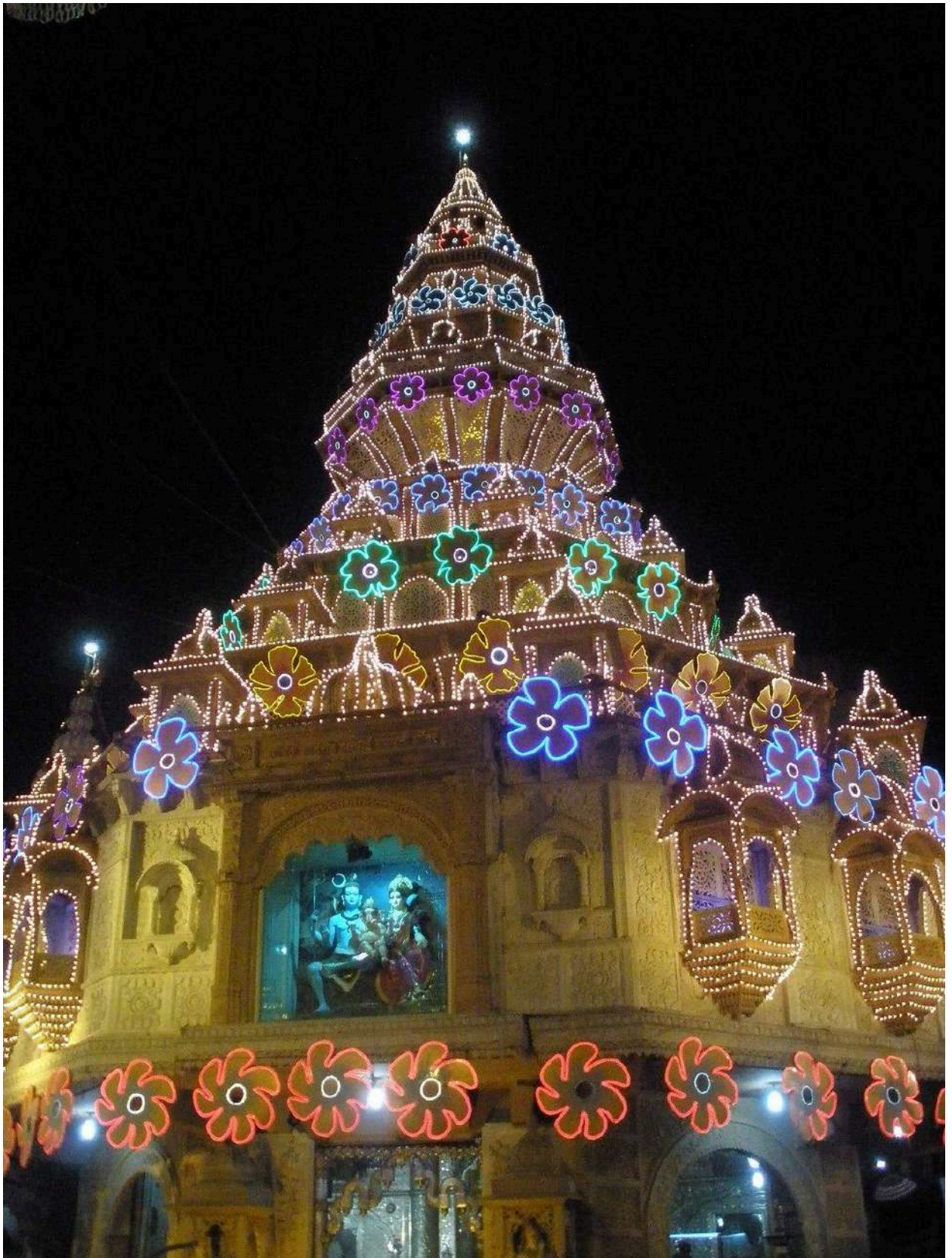




















YouTube Videos

Dagdusheth Ganpati Temple - complete guide (9 min):

<https://youtu.be/0ZIK8DIw91c?si=BZByBSZilqXGz-sD>

Pune's Epic Ganapati Aagama celebration 2024 (10 min):

https://youtu.be/HNIFUPpGBQc?si=W6I2hOjtodvYTA_8

Ganeshotsav 2015 (11 min) https://youtu.be/OFgygeUs6NY?si=Y0d9Y04aa7Lj2N_i

Sangeet Mahotsav 2025 - 8 videos - playlist:

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLy5M_Vs6rYG-p2-kc04vLMQ3oLkIFsPoB&si=-FgCYnJU8vFtCinq

Dagdusheth Ganpati Temple - complete tour guide (19 min):

<https://youtu.be/xC4dMXmTqYc?si=2xSTT74mNdY9z9C0>

Most exciting trip to Dagdusheth Ganpati Temple (5 min):

<https://youtu.be/yayd5nhAMGU?si=ZJM8W37CcCj0rLwE>

Dagdusheth Ganpati Temple - documentary (9 min):

<https://youtu.be/9Zyg9iFLGrA?si=GG8oYEe7Bj7XC4GA>

Maha Aarti on Ganesh Chaturthi- short video (0.44 min):

https://youtu.be/QikK4X_X75w?si=_Ym54iY1Ta4oS3pJ

PM Modi visits the temple on August 1, 2023:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/192NSorAu3/>

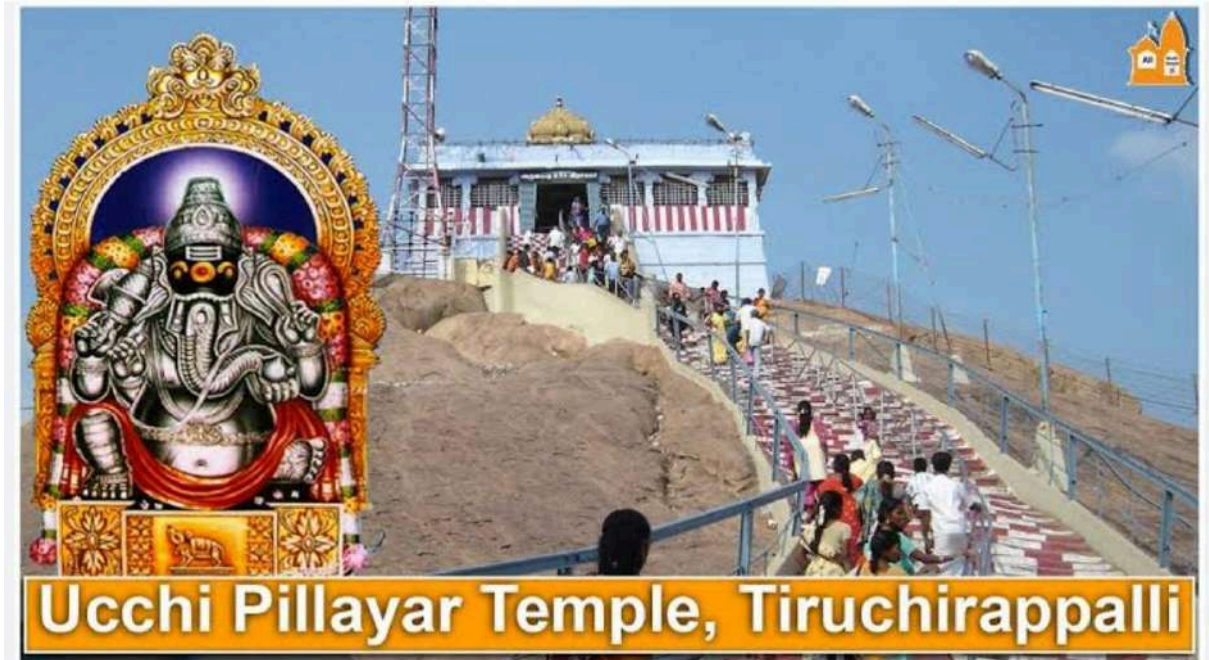


ॐ सह ना ववतु । सह नौ भुनक्तु । सह वीर्यं करवावहै । तेजस्विनावधीतमस्तु मा विद्विषावहै ॥ (3)

ॐ शान्तिः शान्तिः शान्तिः ॥ (3)

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar

**Ucchi Pillayar Temple, Rockfort,
Trichy, Tamil Nadu, India**



Ucchi Pillayar Temple, Tiruchirappalli

Compiled by

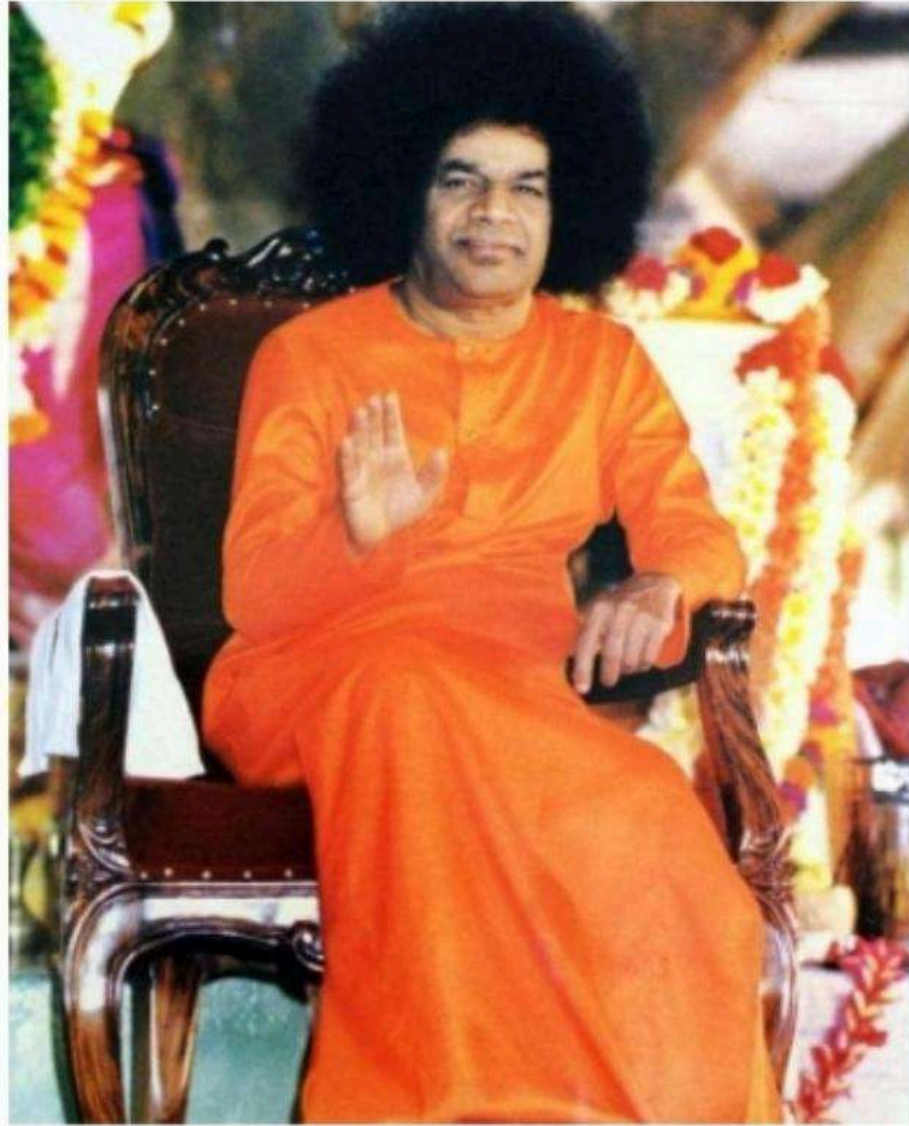
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DEDICATION

**This work is lovingly dedicated at the lotus feet of:
Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba**



**There is only ONE caste -The Caste of Humanity
There is only ONE religion –The Religion of Love
There is only ONE language –The Language of the Heart
There is only ONE God –He is Omnipresent**

.....Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba

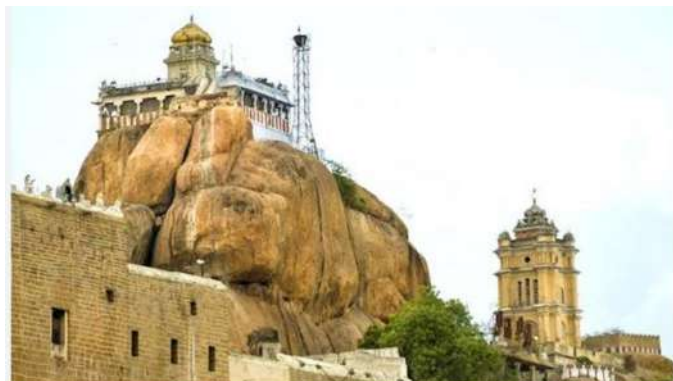
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PREFACE



This free ebook gives briefly info about: “ **Ucchi Pillayar Temple, Rockfort, Trichy, Tamil Nadu, India** ”.

Details of the Temple location, map, phone number and how to reach there, Temple History, and legends, architecture, Timings, festivals, deities, poojas, rituals and special poojas, charges for various poojas, Aarti timings, speciality of this temple, where to stay - accommodation, nearby attractions, contact info, info for devotees, facilities for devotees, Do's and Don'ts, guidelines for devotees, Tips for Visitors, donation info, similar places, nearby places, nearby budget hotels and star hotels, comments by visitors, FAQs,..etc are given.

Many good photographs of the temple, idols and related activities are given.

Links to YouTube Videos give videos relating to the temple, its history, festivals, travel guide, vlogs and bus tour,.....etc.

Acknowledgements:

Many of my friends and relatives have actively encouraged me in my attempt to compile this free ebook. I sincerely thank them for their support.

My wife Kala has always encouraged and supported me in all my literary works, sacrificing much of her time. I express my deep appreciation to her.

I have drawn from many references, and also from YouTube as mentioned in the text.

Finally, I express my immense gratitude to Sri Sathya Sai Baba for His Grace and blessings, prompting me to initiate, continue and complete this work.

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar,
May 21, 2025
Email: tmuliya@rediffmail.com

Ref: Wikipedia

Ucchi Pillayar Temple, Rockfort



Rock fort @ Thiruchirappalli during night

Ucchi Pillayar Temple is a 7th-century-CE [Hindu](#) temple, one dedicated to [Ganesha](#) located a top of [Rock Fort](#), [Trichy](#), [Tamil Nadu](#), [India](#). According to legend, this rock is the place where Ganesha ran from King [Vibishana](#), after establishing the [Ranganathaswamy](#) deity in Srirangam. Tiruchirappalli Rock Fort is also fondly called as *Malaikottai* in [Tamil](#).

Architecture

The Rock Fort temple stands 83 metres (272 ft) tall perched atop a rock. The smooth rock was first cut by the Pallavas but it was the [Nayaks of Madurai](#) who completed both the temples under the [Vijayanagara empire](#).^[1]

The Ganesha temple is much smaller with an access through steep steps carved on the rock and provides views of Trichy, Srirangam and the rivers Kaveri and [Kollidam](#). Due to its ancient architecture, created by the [Pallavas](#), the temple is maintained by the Archaeological department of India.

History of the Vinayaka temple

Vibhishana, was the younger brother of the [Asura](#) King [Ravana](#) who ruled [Lanka](#). [Rama](#) in the epic of [Ramayana](#) rescues his wife [Sita](#), who was kidnapped and held by Ravana, with the help of [Sugriva](#) and [Hanuman](#) defeated him. In this war, the moral and truth-abiding brother of Ravana, Vibishana aids Rama in his battle against his brother. Ultimately Rama

wins the war and as a token of love, he gives Vibishana a *vigraham* (idol for worship) of [Lord Ranganatha](#), a form of [Vishnu](#).

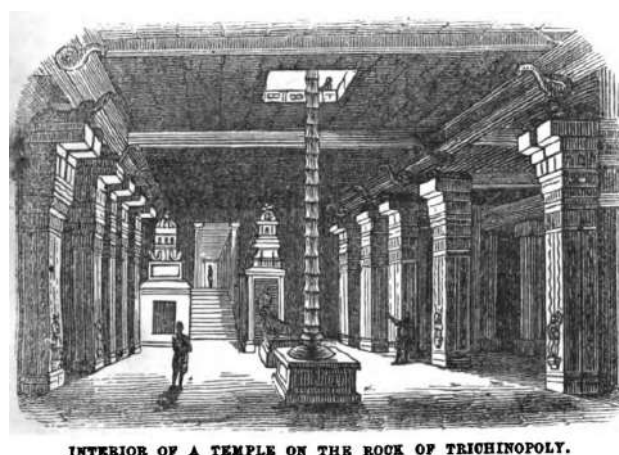
Vibhishana, though he supported Rama, was basically an Asura, hence the [Devas](#) (who are archrivals to Asuras as per [Hindu mythology](#)) wanted to stop this idea of an Asura taking Lord's supreme form to his Kingdom. They request the help of the Remover of obstacles and God of learning, [Vinayaka](#) and he accepts the plan. Vibhishana, while on his return to his Kingdom, goes through Trichy, and wants to take his bath in the river [Kaveri](#) and do his daily rituals. However, he is perplexed as the deity, once kept in land, can never be removed and has to be in that place forever.

As a solution, Vibishana tries to find someone to hold the deity while he is taking a bath. He finds Vinayaka under the disguise of a cowherd boy. As per the plan, when Vibishana is fully into water, Vinayaka takes the deity and keeps it firmly in sand, in the banks of Kaveri. On seeing this, the angry Vibhishana chases the boy, to punish him, and the boy keeps running and climbs over the rock near the Kaveri bank. Vibhishana finally reaches the boy and hits him on the forehead. One can see a pit in the forehead of the idol even today.^[2] The little boy then reveals himself to be Vinayaka. Vibishana immediately apologizes and the Lord gives him his blessings, reveals that the idol is destined to remain in Srirangam and sends him off to Lanka. This is similar in many regards to the story of Lord Ganesha in Gokarna with Ravana in the same Ramayana period.

The place in which the Ranganathan deity was kept was later covered in deep forests, due to disuse and after a very long time, it was discovered when a Chola king chasing a parrot found the deity accidentally. He then established the [Ranganathaswamy Temple, Srirangam](#) as the largest temple complexes in the world. Meanwhile, the Pallavas built the Vinayaka temple and the Thayumanaswamy temple, in the rock which Vinayaka used to escape Vibishana.

Uchi Pillayar is always associated with Manicka Vinayagar at the foothills. It is a general worship practise to pray obeisance with Manicak Vinayagar before visiting Uchi Pillayar.^[3]

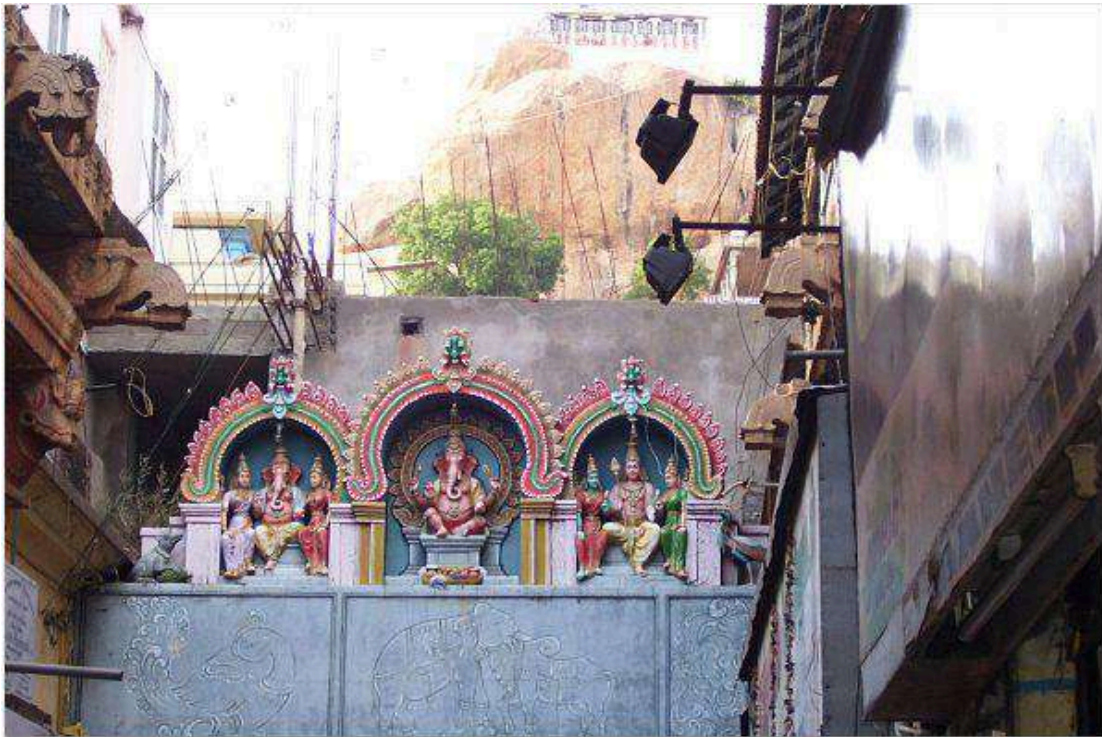
Gallery



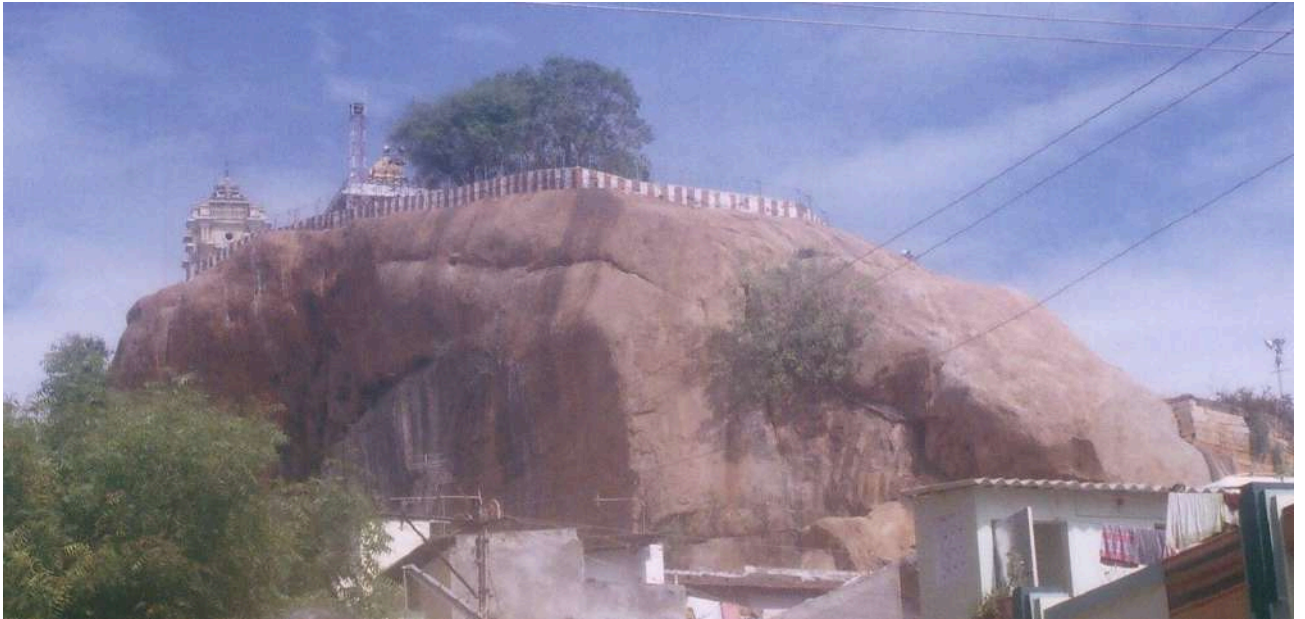
Interior of a Temple on the Rock of Trichinopoly (1847)



Rockfort as viewed from Lourdes Church



Main entrance to the temple



View from the east side of the temple



View from atop the temple



Gopuram of the Temple



Trichy at night, as viewed from the Uchchi Pillayar Temple, Rockfort

Ucchi Pillayar Temple, Trichy

About: Ucchi Pillayar Temple, Rockfort, Trichy, Tamil Nadu .. Give info under following general headings: ...Details of the Temple location, map, phone number and how to reach there, Temple History, miracles and legends, architecture, Timings, deities, poojas, rituals and special poojas, festivals, speciality of this temple, where to stay - accommodation, nearby attractions, contact info, info for devotees, facilities for devotees, Do's and Don'ts, guidelines for devotees, Tips for Visitors, donation info, similar places, nearby places, nearby budget hotels and star hotels, comments by visitors,..etc , and any other additional info..

Here is a comprehensive write-up on **Ucchi Pillayar Temple, Rockfort, Tiruchirappalli (Trichy), Tamil Nadu**, under the requested headings:

1. Temple Location, Map, Contact & How to Reach

- **Location:** Rockfort, Teppakulam, Tiruchirappalli (Trichy), Tamil Nadu – 620002
- **Google Maps:** Search “Ucchi Pillayar Temple, Rockfort, Trichy”
- **Phone Number:** +91 431 2704621 (General Inquiry – may change)
- **How to Reach:**
 - **By Air:** Trichy International Airport – 8 km away
 - **By Rail:** Trichy Railway Junction – 3 km
 - **By Bus:** Trichy Central Bus Stand – 2.5 km. Local buses, autos, and cabs available.

2. Temple History, Miracles & Legends

- **History:** The temple dates back over 1,300 years and is closely associated with Pallava and Nayaka architecture.
- **Legend:** According to legend, after Ravana’s brother Vibhishana received the **Vishnu idol (Sri Ranganathar)** from Rama, Ganesha, in the form of a small boy, tricked him and placed the idol permanently at Srirangam. Vibhishana, enraged, chased the boy, who ran up the hill and revealed his divine form as **Ucchi Pillayar (Ganesha)**. Hence, this hilltop shrine is considered sacred.
- **Miracles:** Devotees believe sincere prayers here remove obstacles, especially related to education, marriage, and career.

3. Architecture

- **Rockfort Complex:** The hill is over **83 meters (273 feet)** high and is made of ancient rock, estimated to be **3.8 billion years old**, older than the Himalayas.
 - **Features:** Ucchi Pillayar Temple is located atop the hill. Halfway up is **Thayumanaswamy Shiva Temple**, another ancient shrine.
 - **Dravidian Style:** Rock-cut steps, shrines carved into rock, and intricate sculptures are key features.
-

4. Temple Timings

- **Morning:** 6:00 AM – 12:00 PM
 - **Evening:** 4:00 PM – 8:30 PM
(Timings may change on festivals)
-

5. Deities

- **Main Deity:** Lord Ganesha (Ucchi Pillayar)
 - **Other Shrines:** Thayumanaswamy (Lord Shiva) and Amman shrine are present midway up the hill.
-

6. Poojas, Rituals & Special Poojas

- **Daily Poojas:** Suprabhatham, Abhishekam, Archana, Deeparadhana
 - **Special Poojas:**
 - **Chaturthi** days – Special abhishekam and offerings
 - **Vinayaka Chaturthi** – Grand celebration
 - **Sankatahara Chaturthi** – Important for obstacle removal
-

7. Festivals

- **Vinayaka Chaturthi** – Major festival celebrated grandly with thousands of devotees.
 - **Panguni Brahmotsavam** – Held for the Thayumanaswamy temple.
 - **Karthigai Deepam** – Lamps lit throughout the temple.
-

8. Speciality of the Temple

- **Hilltop Ganesha Shrine** – Offers panoramic view of Trichy city.
- **Spiritual Energy** – Believed to remove doshas and help in achieving goals.

- **Ancient Rock** – Geologically significant and spiritually powerful.
-

9. Accommodation

- **Temple Guesthouses:** Limited. Advance inquiry recommended.
 - **Budget Hotels Nearby:**
 - Hotel Susee Park (Teppakulam)
 - Hotel Mayas
 - Hotel King Paradise
 - **Star Hotels:**
 - Grand Gardenia (3-star)
 - Sangam Hotel Trichy (4-star)
 - SRM Hotel Pv Ltd
-

10. Nearby Attractions

- **Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple, Srirangam** – 7 km
 - **Jambukeswarar Temple, Thiruvanaikaval** – 6.5 km
 - **Kaveri River Banks**
 - **Government Museum** – 3 km
 - **Mukkombu Dam** – 18 km
-

11. Contact Info

- **Temple Office (General):** +91 431 2704621
 - **Tourism Info:** Tamil Nadu Tourism Office, Trichy – 0431-2700043
-

12. Info & Facilities for Devotees

- **Facilities:**
 - Drinking water
 - Rest areas near base
 - Local shops for pooja items
 - Guides available at nominal charge
 - **Footwear stand** available at the base
 - **Free/paid cloakroom** for baggage
-

13. Do's and Don'ts

- **Do's:**
 - Wear traditional/modest dress
 - Start your climb early morning or evening to avoid heat
 - Carry water bottles and small towels
 - Observe silence inside sanctums
 - **Don'ts:**
 - No photography inside sanctums
 - Avoid littering the steps or pathways
 - Don't feed monkeys (they can be aggressive)
-

14. Tips for Visitors

- The **climb involves around 400 steps**; not ideal for the elderly with knee issues.
 - Carry a **hat or umbrella** in summer.
 - Beware of **monkeys**.
 - Visit during **early morning or sunset** for scenic views.
-

15. Donation Info

- Donations can be made at the temple office.
 - Inquire on-site for any **Hundi/online donation** methods.
 - You may offer:
 - Archana items
 - Annadhanam contributions
 - Temple maintenance fund
-

16. Similar Places

- **Palani Murugan Temple** – Hilltop shrine with steps
 - **Thiruchendur Murugan Temple** – Coastal, powerful energy
 - **Manakula Vinayagar Temple, Puducherry**
 - **Pillayarpatti Karpaga Vinayagar Temple**
-

17. Visitor Comments

- "Amazing view of the city!"
- "Spiritual and peaceful once you reach the top."
- "Worth the climb, very divine."

- "Best time is early morning – less crowd and beautiful breeze."
 - "Monkeys were mischievous, but overall, a great experience."
-

18. Additional Information

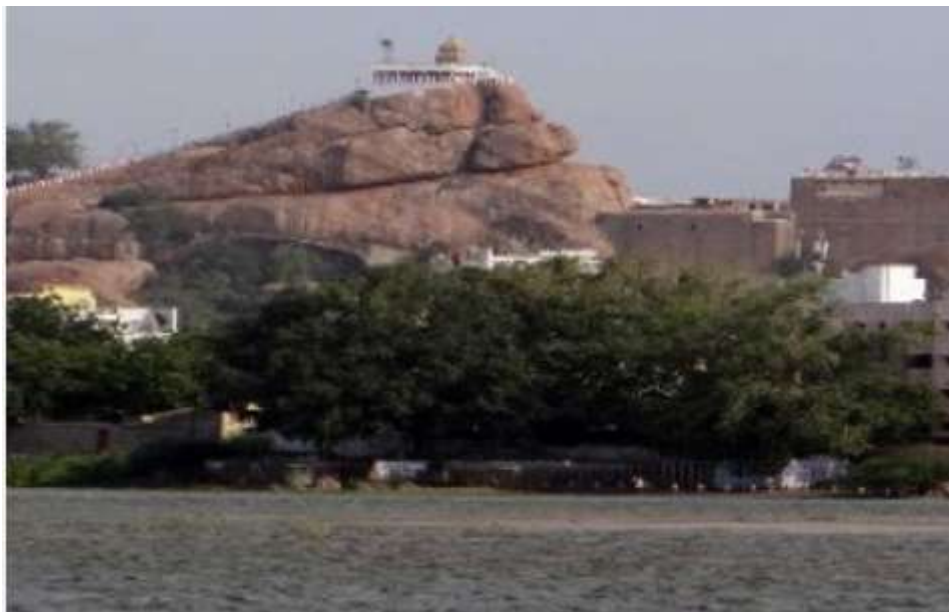
- **Footfall:** Thousands of visitors during festivals.
- **Accessibility:** Not wheelchair-friendly.
- **Best Time to Visit:** October to March.
- **Languages Spoken:** Tamil, English, some Hindi.
- **Safety:** Generally safe, well-maintained.

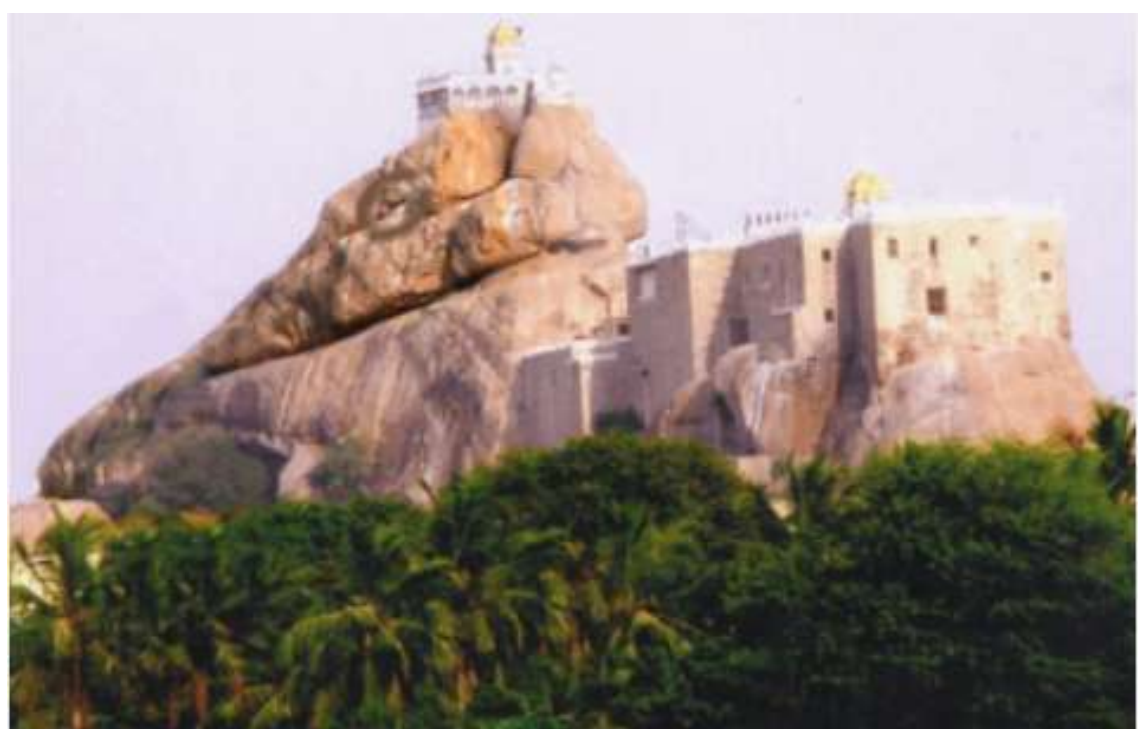
Ref: <https://tiruchirappalli.nic.in/tourist-place/rockfort-temple/>

RockFort Temple

The most famous landmark of Tiruchirappalli is Rockfort Temple. It is also called Ucchi Pillaiyar Kovil. It is in the heart of the city. This is a 275 ft. tall rock structure. It is reached by a step flight of 437 steps cut into the rock. Halfway up is the Sri Thayumanaswamy Temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva. It has a 100 pillared hall, and a Vimana. There are inscriptions in these temples that date back to 3rd century B.C. From its summit tourists can get a fantastic view of the town plus its other main landmarks, Srirangam, Cauvery River, Coleroon River, Thiruvanaikal Kovil, etc. The temple is located 5 kms from Central Bus Stand and 1 km from Chathiram Bus Stand. Trichy. Government and private bus services are available to reach Rockfort.

Photo Gallery







Ref: <https://ramyashotels.com/trichy-malaikottai/>

Trichy Malaikottai

March 24, 2021

Quick Info

Location: Rockfort Temple, Trichy [Google Maps](#)

Official Website Of Trichy Malaikottai: <http://trichyrockfort.tnhrce.in/>

Rockfort Temple Timings: Daily [6 AM to 8 PM]

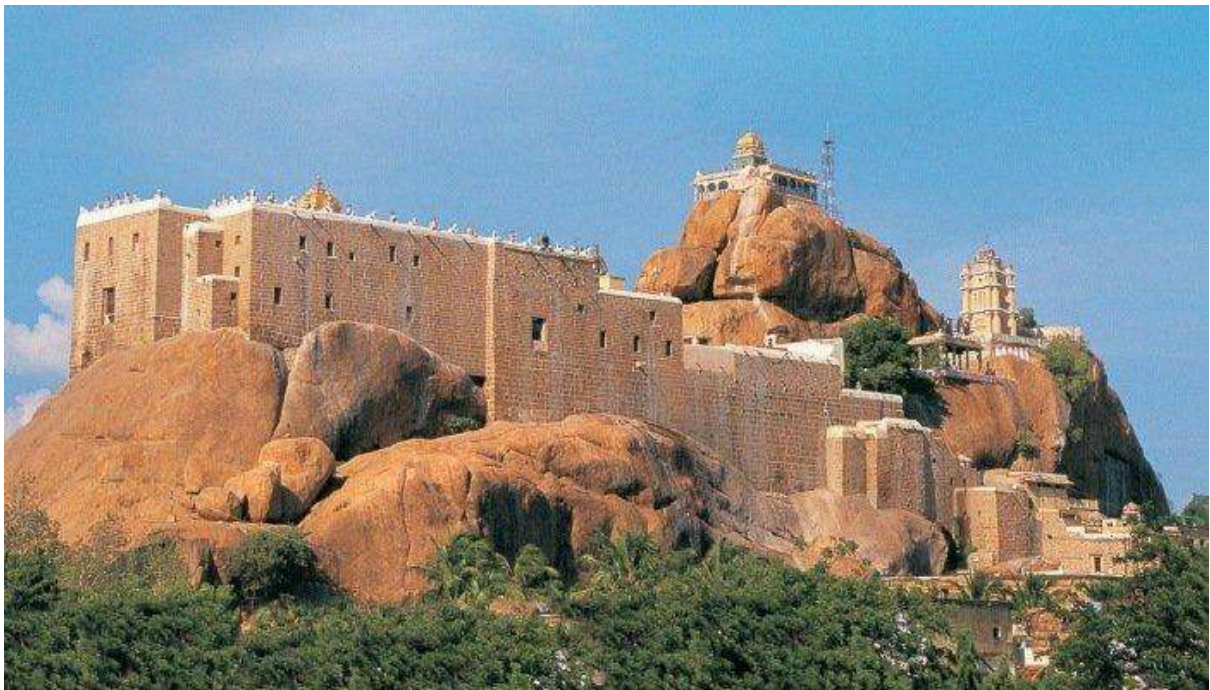
Uchi Pillayar Temple Contact Number: 0431 270 4621

Dedicated To: Uchi Pillaiyar

Architectural style: Dravidian architecture

About Trichy Malaikottai:

Rockfort Temple Trichy also known as “Trichy Malaikottai”(மலைக்கோட்டை) has a magnificent piece of history. The Trichy Malaikottai Temple consists of two temples inside it named Ucchi Pillayar Temple and Thayumanaswamy Temple. Rockfort temple timings start from 6 AM to 8 PM. Malaikottai stands around 273 feet and takes 417 steps to reach the Ucchi Pillayar. As it is stated that the tough roads frequently result in lovely destinations, likewise the stairs withinside the Malaikottai will lead you to a superb view of Trichy City. The rock is one of the oldest in the world-approximately 3,800 million years, which makes it as old as the rocks of Greenland and older than the Himalayas. At the basement of this Rockfort temple, the temple tank called Teppakulam is seen. The house near the tank was the place of residence of Robert Clive during British rule. The place is entirely a wealth of beautiful sculptures and marvellous carvings.



Rockfort Temple History

As is consistent with mythological stories, Rathnavathi lived in this region. During her pregnancy, she had informed her mother to come and help her, who was living on the other side of the Cauvery River. While Rathnavathi was waiting, abruptly there was a flood withinside the river. Her mom was not able to cross the river and reach her daughter. At that time Rathnavathi was in pain and she didn't know how to reach out there. She didn't realize what to do other than praying to Lord Shiva. Lord Shiva himself got here as a nurse and helped Rathnavathi to deliver the baby. When the actual mom arrived after numerous hours, everyone found out that the nurse who got here and helped the pregnant lady was God himself. As Lord Shiva has performed the function of mom to Rathnavathi he's known as Thayumana Swamy.



Why You Should Visit Rockfort Temple:

Is it attention-grabbing to listen to these historical stories? Yes, these are the beliefs that individuals have behind this temple. Not only Rockfort temple Trichy has so many eye-catching places to visit like [Srirangam](#), Kollidam Bridge, Kallanai, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Butterfly park etc. From these places, [Ramyas Hotels](#) is not so far, but around 10 km. It's easy to reach there. You can listen to lots and plenty of historical stories with the people out there which can be way more exciting.

Key Points

1. History of Rockfort Temple, Trichy
2. Highlights of Rockfort Temple
3. The main reason for travellers to visit the Trichy Malaikottai

Ref: <https://gosthala.com/uchchi-pillaiyar-temple-trichy/>

Ucchi Pillayar Temple, Rockfort, Trichy

Ucchi Pillayar Temple is an ancient temple dedicated to Lord Ganesha. The temple is located on the top of a hillock named *Rockfort (Malaikoattai in Tamil)* in Trichy, Tamil Nadu.

There are three temples located closely on the rockfort.

1. **Maanikka Vinayakar temple** situated at the foothill, dedicated to Lord Ganesha.
2. **Uchchi Pillayar temple** at the top of the hill, dedicated to Lord Ganesha.
3. **Thayumanaswamy temple**, dedicated to Lord Shiva, situated close to the base of the rockfort on the way to Uchchi Pillayar temple.

Following the victory of Lord Rama in the war against the demon King Ravana, Rama gifted an idol of Lord Vishnu to Ravana's brother Vibhishana who was on Rama's side during the war. When Vibhishana was carrying this idol gift on his way back to Lanka, he decided to rest at a place near Trichy. It was when the Devas sent Lord Ganesha to him in disguise as a little boy since the former did not want the idol to be taken by a member from the Asura family. Vibhishana handed over the idol to the little boy requesting him to take care of the idol till he came back after a shower. Lord Ganesha placed the idol on the ground firmly and hid himself. On his return, Vibhishana found the idol being placed on the ground. His repeated attempts to move the idol failed. He got furious and chased the little boy who ran and climbed over a rock. He hit the boy on his forehead after which Lord Ganesha revealed himself. Vibhishana apologized to the Lord after realizing the real identity. As per the Lord's advice, Vibhishana left for Lanka without the idol.

It was around this idol that Srirangam Ranganathaswamy temple was then built. Also a temple for Lord Ganesha was built on the rock on which the Lord ran in disguise as a little boy to escape from Vibhishana.

Devotees usually pay obeisance to Maanika Vinayagar Temple in the foothills of Rock fort before worshipping Uchi Pillaiyar.

Pooja Details, Timings

Pooja Details	Timings
Usakaalam	06:00 AM – 07:00 AM
Kaalasanthi	08:00 AM – 09:00 AM
Ucchikaalam	08:00 AM – 09:00 AM
Saayarachai	05:00 PM – 06:00 PM
Fifth Kalam	06:00 PM – 07:00 PM
Ardhajamam	07:00 PM – 08:00 PM

Fee Structure

Category	Price in INR
Archanai	50
Bananas	500
Abishekam For Maanikka Vinayakar	600
Maanikka Vinayakar Sandana Kaapu	1250
Abishekam For Uchchi Pillaiyar Sandana Kappu	1250
Abishekam For Arulmigu Uchchi Pillaiyar,Arulmigu Thayumanasamy,Arulmigu Mattuvar Kullammai(Per Head)	600
Ganapathy Homam	1500
Mahalakshmi Homam	1500
Rudra Japam	1000
Sangabishekam	5000
Pudhu Kanaku Poduthal	250
Naga Puranam for Thayumana Samy	100
Uchai Malai Ticket	3

Camera Ticket	20
Video Camera Ticket	100
Archanai Ticket	5
Abishekam Ticket	600
Uchchi Pillaiyar Sandana Kappu	1250
Manicka Vinayakar Sandana Kappu	1250
Abishekam & Kaanikkai	5
Lackage Care	5
Banana	20
Flower Maalai for God	10
Special Entrance for Manicka Vinayakar Sanathi	25
Manicka Vinayakar Thanga Kavasam	100
Irumudi Kattu	100
Vada Malai For Nanthi Temple & Anjaneya	10
Erithurumpu Ticket	10

Official Website: <http://www.trichyrockfort.tnhrce.in/index.html>

Temple Timings:

6:00 AM to 8:00 PM

ThayumanaSwamy Temple

6:00 AM to 12:00 PM; 04:00 PM To 08:00 PM

Manikka Vinayagar Temple

05:30 AM To 12:00 PM; 04:00 PM To 09:00 PM

Temple Address:

Tiruchirapalli Rock Fort, N Andar St, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu 620002

Temple Contact Details:

Phone: 0431 – 2704621

Email: thiruchyrockforttemple@gmail.com

How to reach:

By Air:

The nearest airport to the temple is that of Trichy at a distance of 10 km.

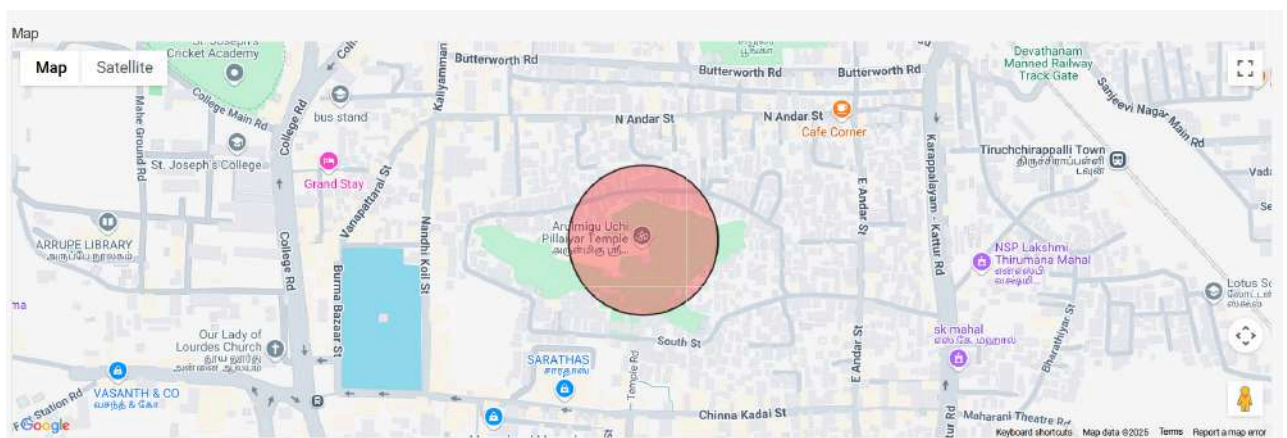
By Rail:

The nearest major railway station is Trichy at a distance of 6 km.

By Road:

Adequate buses are available from Trichy.

Map



Ref: <https://vocal.media/earth/rockfort-temple>

Rockfort Temple

By Natarajan

Published 2023



Rockfort Temple, also known as Ucchi Pillayar Temple, is a famous Hindu temple located on a hill in the city of Trichy (Tiruchirappalli) in Tamil Nadu, India. The temple is dedicated to Lord Ganesha, also known as Pillayar in Tamil. The temple complex consists of two main parts - the lower part is the Taayumaanava Kovil and the upper part is the Uchipillaiyar Kovil.

The temple is situated on a rock that is said to be more than 3 billion years old and is one of the oldest rock formations in the world. The temple has a history of over 1,300 years and is a prominent landmark in the city of Trichy.

To reach the temple, one has to climb 437 steps carved out of the rock. As one climbs the steps, there are several small shrines and mandapams that one can visit. The climb is relatively easy and there are plenty of resting places along the way.

The temple is famous for its intricate carvings, sculptures and architecture. The Uchipillaiyar Kovil at the top of the hill offers a breathtaking view of the city of Trichy. The temple attracts thousands of visitors every day, especially during the annual Brahmotsavam festival, which is celebrated in the Tamil month of Panguni (March-April).

Overall, the Rockfort Temple is a must-visit place for anyone visiting Trichy or interested in Hindu temples and architecture.

History:

The history of the Rockfort Temple dates back to the 7th century when it was originally built by the Pallavas. Later, it was occupied by the Cholas, who made several additions to the temple. The Nayaks of Madurai also contributed to the temple's development. The temple underwent major renovations in the 17th century, during the reign of the Vijayanagara Empire.

Architecture:

The Rockfort Temple is a classic example of Dravidian architecture, with its towering gopurams (gateway towers), intricate carvings, and intricate sculptures. The temple complex has two main shrines - the Taayumaanava Kovil at the base and the Uchipillaiyar Kovil at the top. The lower shrine houses a lingam and the upper shrine houses the idol of Lord Ganesha.

Festivals:

The temple celebrates several festivals throughout the year, including Vinayaka Chaturthi, Navaratri, and Kartikai Deepam. However, the most important festival is the Brahmotsavam, which is celebrated for 21 days during the Tamil month of Panguni (March-April). The festival involves a grand procession of Lord Ganesha on a chariot, and the temple attracts thousands of visitors during this time.

Visiting:

The Rockfort Temple is open from early morning until late evening, and visitors can climb the 437 steps to reach the top of the hill. There is no entry fee to the temple, but visitors are required to dress modestly and remove their footwear before entering the temple premises. The best time to visit the temple is during the early morning or late evening when the weather is cooler, and there are fewer crowds.

Overall, the Rockfort Temple is a unique and beautiful temple that is a must-visit destination for anyone traveling to Trichy or interested in Indian temple architecture and history.

Legends:

According to legend, the Rockfort Temple is said to have been the site where Lord Ganesha, the elephant-headed God, ran up the hill to escape from King Vibishana. King Vibishana was the brother of the demon king Ravana, who had kidnapped Lord Rama's wife, Sita. Vibishana, who was an ally of Lord Rama, sought Lord Ganesha's help to defeat Ravana. As a token of gratitude, Vibishana wanted to gift the idol of Lord Ranganatha (a form of Lord Vishnu) to Lord Rama. However, Lord Ranganatha was too heavy to be carried, so Lord Ganesha ran up the hill and placed the idol on the hilltop.

Another legend says that the hill on which the Rockfort Temple is located was originally a meteorite that fell to earth. The meteorite was said to be so heavy that it caused the earth to crack, and the hill was formed as a result.

Tourist attractions:

Apart from the Rockfort Temple, there are several other tourist attractions in Trichy that visitors can explore. Some of these include the Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple, which is one of the largest and most famous Hindu temples in India, the Jambukeshwara Temple, which is dedicated to Lord Shiva, and the St. Joseph's Church, which is a beautiful example of Gothic architecture.

Food:

Trichy is known for its delicious South Indian cuisine, and visitors can enjoy a variety of vegetarian and non-vegetarian dishes while in the city. Some of the must-try dishes include idli, dosa, sambar, rasam, biryani, and filter coffee.

Shopping:

Trichy is also a great place to shop for souvenirs and traditional handicrafts. Visitors can shop for items such as bronze and brass items, silk sarees, wooden toys, and stone carvings.

Overall, Trichy is a fascinating city with a rich history and culture, and the Rockfort Temple is just one of the many attractions that visitors can explore while in the city.

Ref: [tripadvisor.in](https://www.tripadvisor.in)

Comments by visitors



drkarthikvj

Warrington, UK • 14 contributions

👍 0 ...



Fantastic temple to visit!

Jul 2023 • Family

Fantastic temple, but not suitable for the elderly/ physically challenged. It is perhaps high time some form of assisted transport is provided (disabled access)

Written 23 July 2023



Regu Pillai

Singapore, Singapore • 1,939 contributions

👍 0 ...



Must visit in Trichy

May 2023 • Couples

Magnificent view from the top. Ancient architecture and science are amazing. No one should miss this beautiful and Spritual place.

Written 6 May 2023



Naveen Raaj S

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia • 136 contributions

👍 0 ...



Lord Ganesha High Up There

Oct 2019

The only Ganesha Temple as far as I know of to be so high up. About 417 steps to climb in order for you to meet him. But He never makes it hard to reach Him. You won't feel the pain of climbing. Once you're up there, the view is so good. Scenic panoramic view of Tiruchirapalli.



Written 12 November 2019



WVR7933

Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India • 591 contributions

👍 0 ...



Great Temple of Lord Vinayaga

Aug 2019

This is a 7th Century temple and is dedicated to Lord Ganesha located at the top of Rock Fort. This is 83 meters tall. There are 2 other temples to be seen before worshipping Lord Ganesha. The first one is at the entrance itself being called as Manicka Vinayagar.. The other one "Thayumanavar Swami" after crossing some 300 steps. There may be totally about 450 steps to reach Ucchi Pillayar. There is no lift or escalators available. We have to walk only. Lord Vinayaka is very much beautiful and He fulfills the prayers of his devotees. We have to be very careful while climbing the last few steps which are very much steep...

We can have a very beautiful sight of the entire City from Uchi Pillayar Temple. We can take photographs from the Pillaiyar Temple.

[Read less](#) ^

Written 18 August 2019



Balasubramanian R

Chennai (Madras), India • 807 contributions

👍 0 ...



Ucchi Pilliar koil

May 2019 • Family

Ucchi Pillayar temple is of old temple and Lord Ganesa is the main deity. Temple is located on the top of Rock Fort about 83 meter tall. This rock is the place where Lord Ganesha ran from King Vibishana, after establishing the Ranganathaswamy deity in nearby Srirangam. The Ganesha temple is much smaller with an access through steep steps carved on the rock and provides a stunning view of Trichy, Srirangam and the rivers Kaveri and Kollidam. On the ground Manickka vinayagar and half the way Thayumanavar temple are there.

Written 10 May 2019



@TravelLover

Chennai (Madras), India • 296 contributions

16 0 ...



Scenic beauty and blessing sight

Jun 2019 • Solo

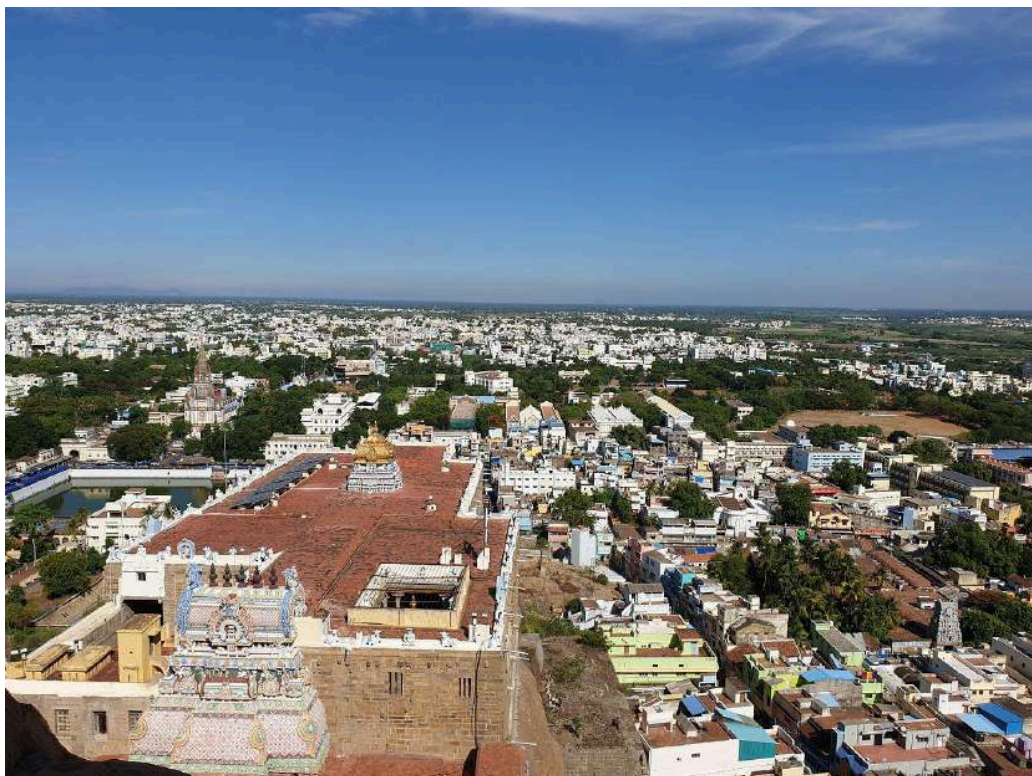
There are three god. At the bottom manicka vinayagar and in the middle thaymana swamy and at the top uchi pillayar. Totally 417 steps. One has to be fit if you crossed 50 years. It is a heritage site. Old pallavas have carved the temple from rocks. When we see the shiva in a comparatively large linga swaroop, the feeling was amazing. Divine feeling. Then we had amman sannathi. Then after you have maha laxmi sannathi. Praying at both these places give you a soothing feeling. Further if you climb up you can see the east of trichy from hill top. Left you can view both rail and road bridges along with the temple tower of shrirangam. If you claimb further few steps you can reach uchi pillayar temple. From there you can see the entire city. With blessings of lord vinayak you can happily come down withput any tiredness of climbing all 417 steps. This mountain said to exist 36000 years ago. Pallava kings did the construction work by Bc 500

[Read less](#) ^

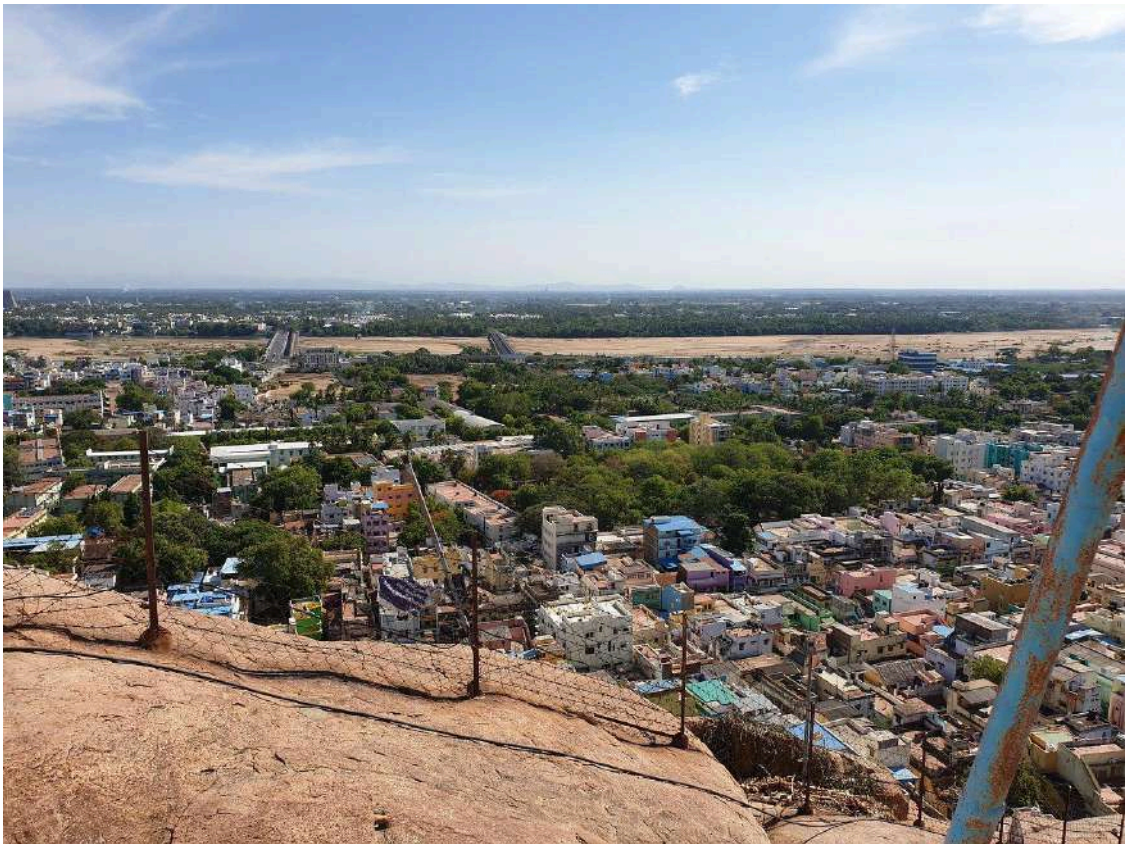


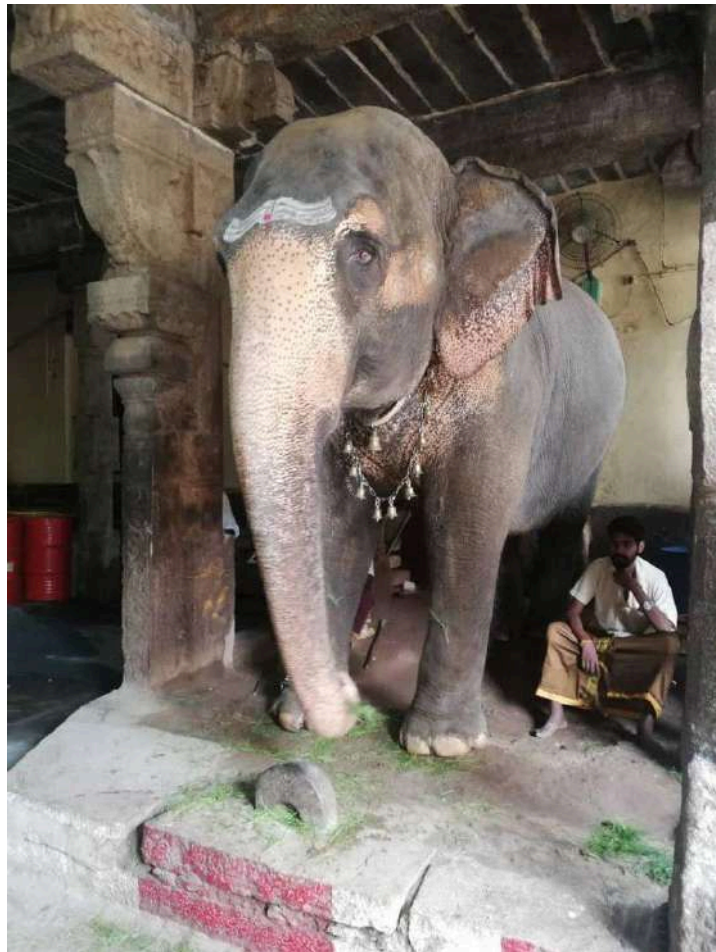
Written 9 June 2019

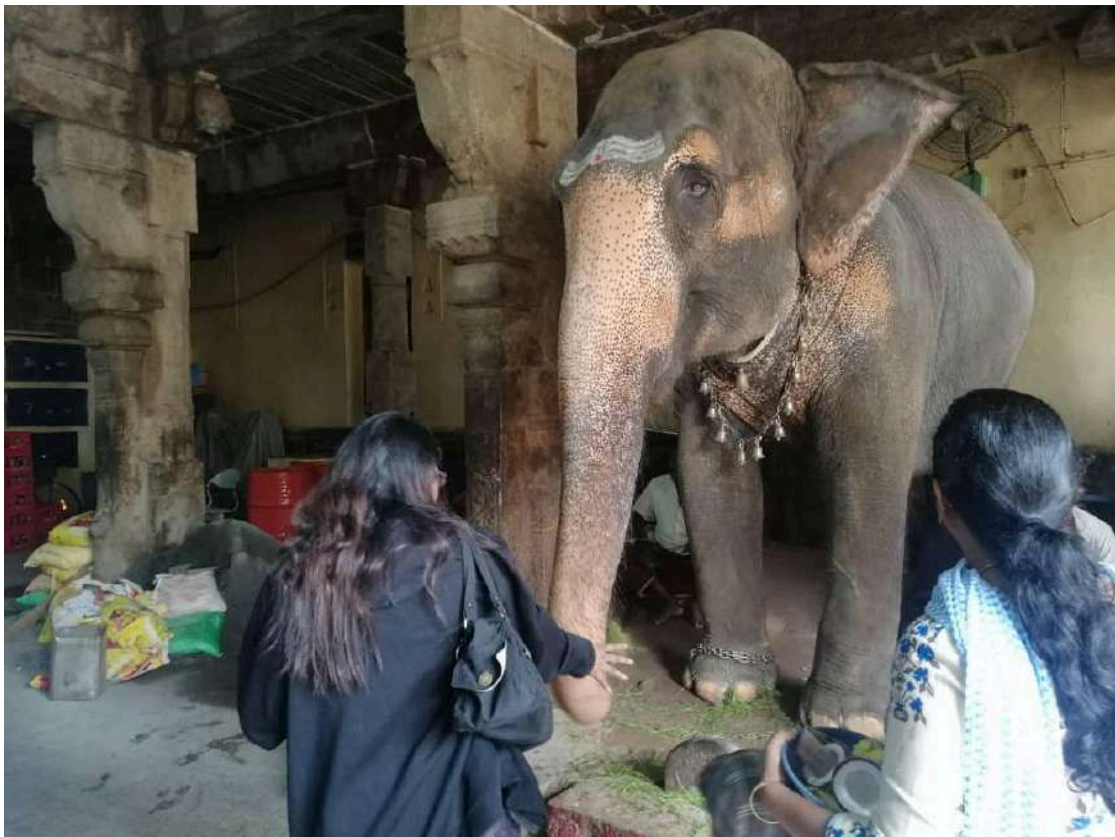
Photos

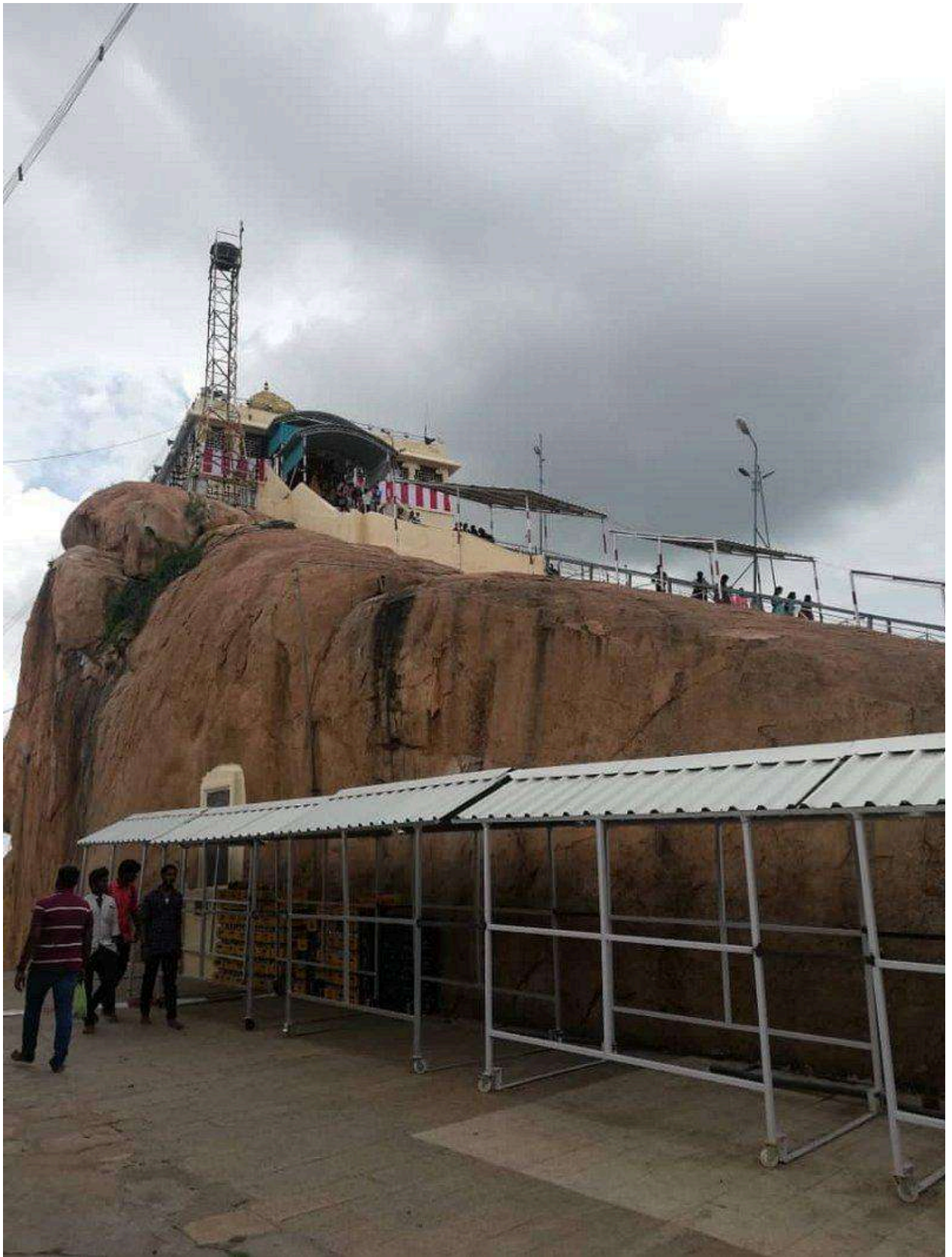


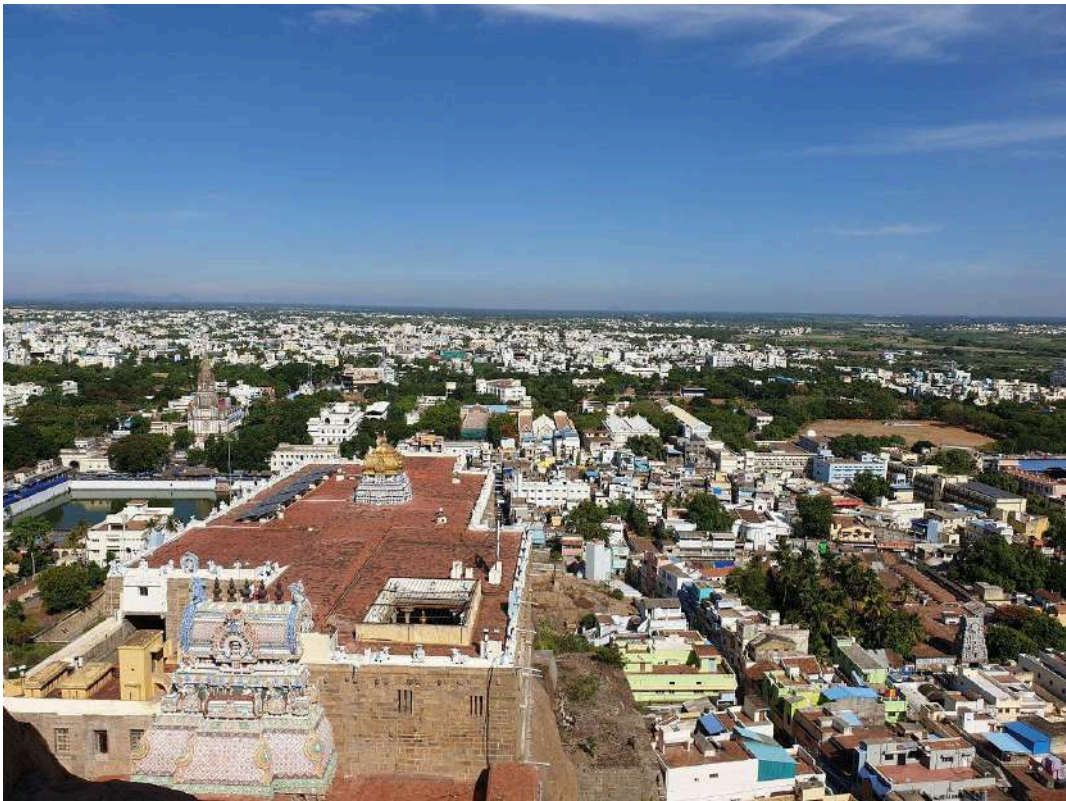












YouTube Videos

Ucchi Pillayar Temple History- Tamil (2 min):

<https://youtu.be/AIW0QZ5ePN0?si=aZ5N0wr3X3--PhLc>

Ucchi Pillayar Temple History, Temple view (3 min):

<https://youtu.be/J6dyvb7Vr5U?si=GBvCzN7y92VG-KR9>

Rockfort Temple perfect guide (4 min):

<https://youtu.be/hnVc6kVykqA?si=qD0qX0Y804giwaOB>

Rockfort Ucchi Pillayar Temple- 7th century Temple (0.17 min) :

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1ELuzkwDz5/>

How to reach Ucchi Pillayar Temple by Bus from Tiruchirappalli Rly Station (9 min):

https://youtu.be/1yVst1jzwJo?si=k_CRoPWeLOkwmvb2

Ucchi Pillayar Temple (2 min): <https://youtu.be/Czl6YrO6lGo?si=4zJReS4KcQRp5qCu>

Rockfort Temple and our Lady of Lourdes (9 min) :

https://youtu.be/rD_tEqAzdDE?si=ev1kSUCYOtAjlc37

Ucchi Pillayar Temple (8 min): https://youtu.be/PvCl1_x8TQU?si=vl-LbdyWacjoxl_0

Ucchi Pillayar Temple - UV Studios (2 min):

https://youtu.be/_93KyPOk930?si=RGH2BCehkKrM1W14

Ucchi Pillayar Temple (1 min): <https://youtu.be/wWkeBCj3jRk?si=skRQwgCI-lwsLhK3>

Rockfort Temple climb (8 min): https://youtu.be/xzm7NHpUJJU?si=Eubj_Nfe0dQq1DHq

Ucchi Pillayar Temple - Eyecon facts (5 min):

Ucchi Pillayar Temple (13 min): https://youtu.be/Ue_oi9yTpfU?si=8l2Yd2J7v9RI8NRN

Ucchi Pillayar Temple History, Timings etc (10 min):

https://youtu.be/kp_E_RkvmgM?si=IlnSdTwdP8Z74JNS

Rockfort Ganesh Temple (1 min): https://youtu.be/54kFKBvqi14?si=a0L0FuWmZ_y3pb2a



ॐ स॒ह ना॑ ववतु । स॒ह नौ॑ भुनक्तु । स॒ह वी॒र्यं॑ करवावहै । ते॒ज॒स्विना॒वधी॑तमस्तु मा वि॒द्विषा॒वहै॑ ॥ (3)

ॐ शान्तिः॒ शान्तिः॒ शान्तिः॑ ॥ (3)

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar

**Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple,
Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India**

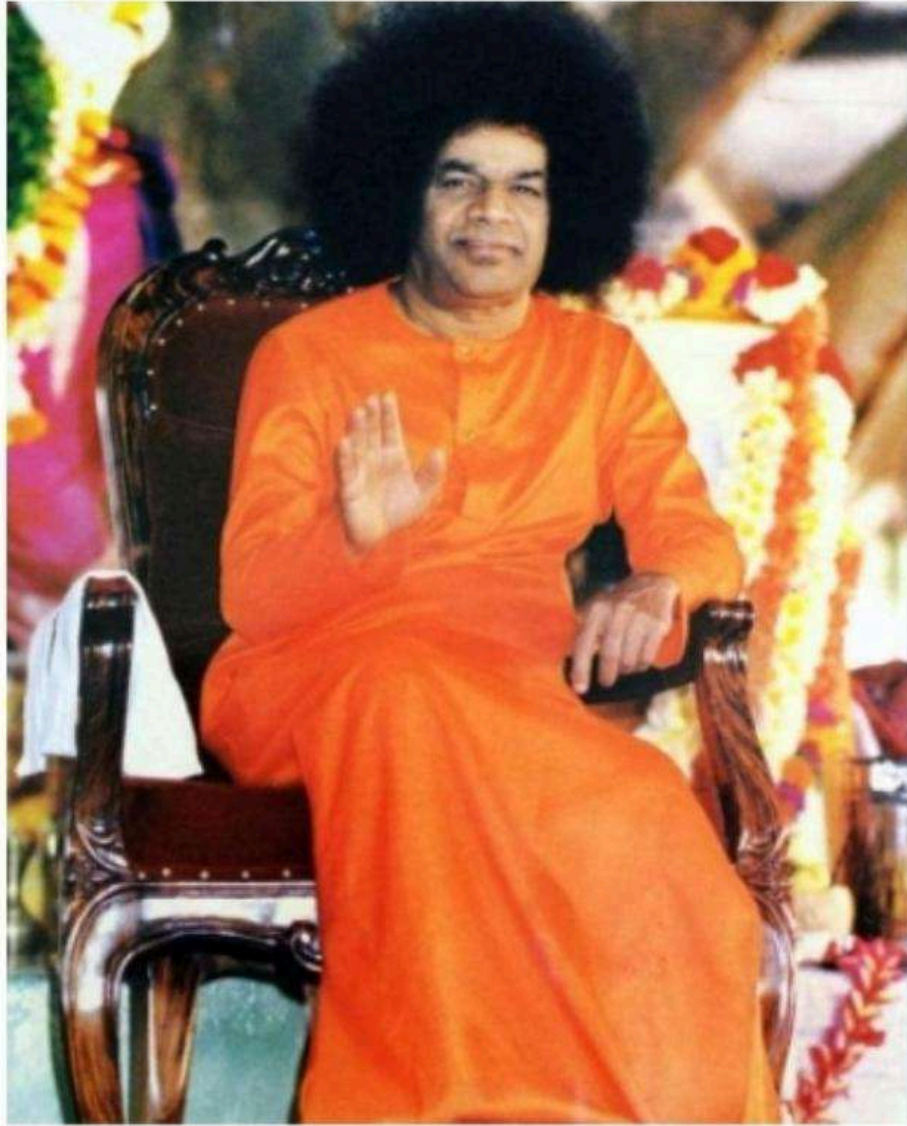


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DEDICATION

**This work is lovingly dedicated at the lotus feet of:
Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba**



**There is only ONE caste -The Caste of Humanity
There is only ONE religion –The Religion of Love
There is only ONE language –The Language of the Heart
There is only ONE God –He is Omnipresent**

.....Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba

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PREFACE



This free ebook gives briefly info about: “ **Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India** ”.

Details of the Temple location, map, phone number and how to reach there, Temple History, and legends, architecture, Timings, festivals, deities, poojas, rituals and special poojas, charges for various poojas, Aarti timings, speciality of this temple, where to stay - accommodation, nearby attractions, contact info, info for devotees, facilities for devotees, Do's and Don'ts, guidelines for devotees, Tips for Visitors, donation info, similar places, nearby places, nearby budget hotels and star hotels, comments by visitors, FAQs,..etc are given. Info is also given about poojas, homams etc conducted in the temple through priests to fulfill various desires of the devotees.

Many good photographs of the temple, idols and related activities are given.

Links to YouTube Videos and FaceBook videos give several videos relating to the temple, its history, festivals, travel guide, tours, and many religious and social activities of the temple..

Acknowledgements:

Many of my friends and relatives have actively encouraged me in my attempt to compile this free ebook. I sincerely thank them for their support.

My wife Kala has always encouraged and supported me in all my literary works, sacrificing much of her time. I express my deep appreciation to her.

I have drawn from many references, and also from YouTube as mentioned in the text.

Finally, I express my immense gratitude to Sri Sathya Sai Baba for His Grace and blessings, prompting me to initiate, continue and complete this work.

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar,
May 22, 2025
Email: tmuliya@rediffmail.com

Ref: yappe.in

Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple, Varanasi

Address

82G5+76G, Jaitpura, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh 221001, India

Map



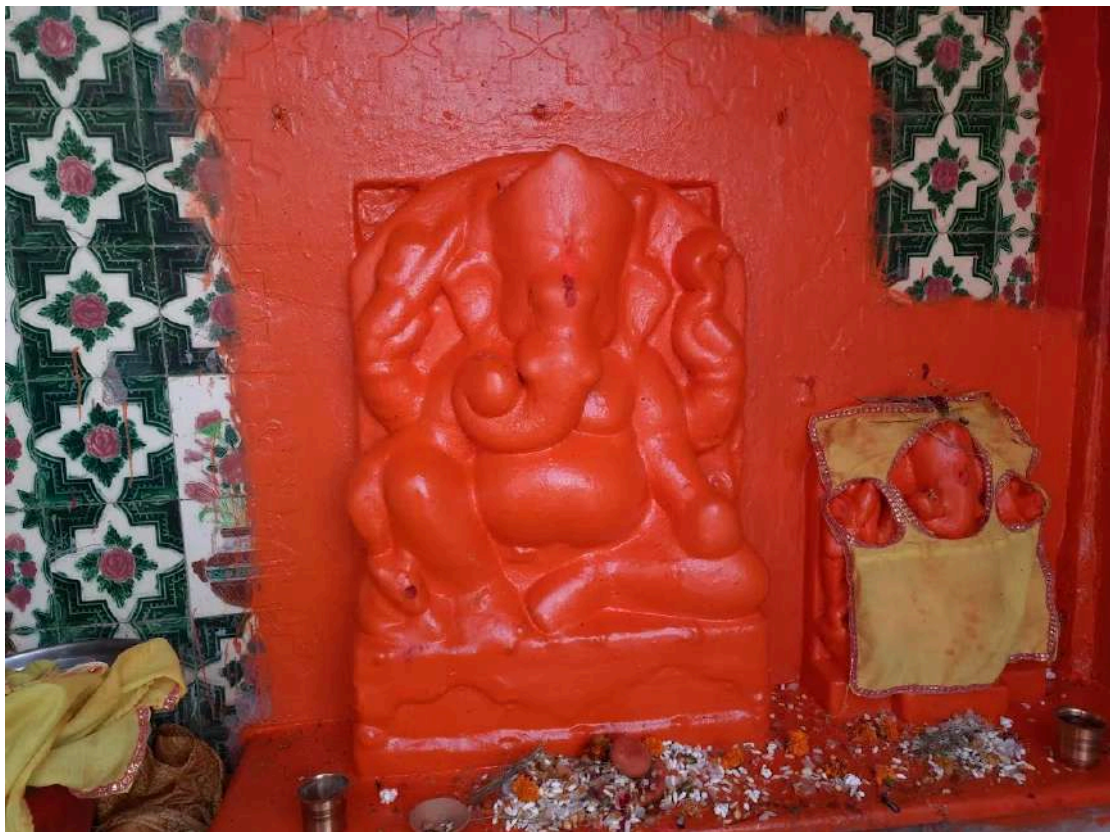
About

Sri Chintamani Ganesh Temple - Kashi Khand is a hindu temple located in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. The average rating of this place is 5.00 out of 5 stars based on 4 reviews. The street address of this place is 82G5+76G, Jaitpura, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh 221001, India. It is about 1.01 kilometers away from the Chowka Ghat railway station.

FAQs

Where is Sri Chintamani Ganesh Temple - Kashi Khand located?

Sri Chintamani Ganesh Temple - Kashi Khand is located at **82G5+76G, Jaitpura, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh 221001, India.**



What is the nearest railway station from Sri Chintamani Ganesh Temple - Kashi Khand?

Chowka Ghat railway station is the nearest railway station to Sri Chintamani Ganesh Temple - Kashi Khand. It is nearly 1.01 kilometers away from it.

Photos









Nearby places



Shree Bhut Nath



Shree Suryanarayan Mandir



Shree Shitla Mata Mandir



Varanasi Cruise & Holidays

What people say about Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple

Shruti Narain 61 months ago

Auspicious place in Varanasi. Very old temple and holds spiritual importance. You can take a battery operated vehicle from Godowlia roundabout it is approximately 1.5 km. Auto will drop you on the main road in front of Lane in which you have to walk for approximately 150 steps.

Satyam Tiwari 16 months ago

Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple is a popular Hindu temple dedicated to Lord Ganesha, located in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India. The temple is situated near the Kedar Ghat.

The temple is named after Lord Ganesha, who is also known as Chintamani, which means removal of worries. The temple is known for its beautiful architecture, intricate carvings, and sculptures. The inner sanctum of the temple houses the idol of Lord Ganesha, which is believed to have self-manifested or svayambhu.

The temple is considered a significant pilgrimage site by the followers of Lord Ganesha, and

devotees from all over India visit this temple to seek blessings and offer prayers. The temple is especially crowded during the festival of Ganesh Chaturthi, which is celebrated with great enthusiasm and devotion.

Overall, Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple is a beautiful and spiritually significant temple in Varanasi, and it is a must-visit place for those interested in Hindu mythology and culture.

vishal sharma 73 months ago

Ancient small temple in a bylane.
It has a very large Ganesh statue. Other small shrines are there.

Ref: perplexity - AI

Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple, Varanasi

About: Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh .. Give info under following general headings: ...Details of the Temple location, map, phone number, website and how to reach there, Temple History, miracles and legends, architecture, Timings, deities, poojas, rituals and special poojas, charges for poojas (if available), festivals, speciality of this temple, where to stay - accommodation, nearby attractions, contact info, info for devotees, facilities for devotees, Do's and Don'ts, guidelines for devotees, Tips for Visitors, donation info, similar places, nearby places, nearby budget hotels and star hotels, comments by visitors,..etc , and any other additional info

Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple, Varanasi – Essential Information

****Details of the Temple Location, Map, Phone Number, Website, and How to Reach****

- ****Address:**** B7/208, Sonarpura Road, near Kedar Ghat, Bangali Tola, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh 221001, India
- ****Phone:**** +91 94158 17927
- ****Website:**** chintamaniganeshkashi.org
- ****How to Reach:****

The temple is centrally located near Kedar Ghat, easily accessible by auto-rickshaw, taxi, or on foot from major ghats and the city center. The nearest railway station is Varanasi Junction, and Lal Bahadur Shastri Airport is the closest airport.

****Temple History, Miracles, and Legends****

- The temple is historically significant and is believed to be established by the Vijaynagram State. Local legends associate Lord Ganesh here as the remover of obstacles and the deity who grants wishes, especially for those facing difficulties.

****Architecture****

- The temple features classic North Indian temple architecture, with a sanctum housing the idol of Lord Ganesh. The structure is modest but revered for its spiritual ambiance.

****Timings****

- Typical timings for Ganesh temples in Varanasi are from early morning (around 5:00 AM) to late evening (about 9:00 PM). It is advisable to confirm timings directly with the temple office for special days.

****Deities****

- The main deity is Lord Chintamani Ganesh, worshipped as the remover of worries and obstacles.

****Poojas, Rituals, Special Poojas, and Charges****

- Regular daily poojas and aartis are performed. Special poojas can be arranged on request, especially during Ganesh Chaturthi and Sankashti Chaturthi. Charges for specific poojas are best confirmed directly with the temple office as they may vary.

****Festivals****

- Ganesh Chaturthi is celebrated with great enthusiasm. Other important festivals include Sankashti Chaturthi and special poojas during Navratri.

****Speciality of This Temple****

- This temple is unique for devotees seeking relief from worries ("Chinta") and is considered highly auspicious for new beginnings and overcoming obstacles.

****Accommodation – Where to Stay****

Nearby options include:

- **Budget:** Ganpati Guest House, Hotel Holy Land, Hotel Gokul Grand
- **Mid-range/Star:** Diamond Hotel, Hotel Dolphin Grand, BrijRama Palace (Heritage), Ramada by Wyndham, Palace on Ganges, Hotel Tridev Grand

****Nearby Attractions****

- Kashi Vishwanath Temple
- Assi Ghat
- Bharat Kala Bhavan Museum
- Dashashwamedh Ghat
- Subah-e-Banaras cultural program at Assi Ghat

****Contact Info****

- **Temple Office:** +91 94158 17927
- **Website:** chintamaniganeshkashi.org

****Info and Facilities for Devotees****

- The temple is accessible and located close to major ghats.
- Basic amenities like prasad counters and shoe stands are available.
- For special poojas or group visits, prior contact is recommended.

****Do's and Don'ts, Guidelines for Devotees, Tips for Visitors****

- Maintain silence and respect the sanctity of the temple.
- Dress modestly.
- Photography may be restricted inside the sanctum.
- Remove footwear before entering.
- Avoid carrying leather items.

****Donation Info****

- Donations are accepted at the temple office or donation boxes. For special contributions, contact the temple directly.

****Similar Places and Nearby Temples****

- Kashi Vishwanath Temple
- Durga Kund Temple
- Sankat Mochan Hanuman Temple

****Comments by Visitors****

- The temple is highly rated (4.8/5 from 323 reviews), with visitors praising its peaceful atmosphere and spiritual significance.

****Additional Info****

- The temple is especially crowded during major festivals; early morning visits are recommended for a peaceful darshan.
- Several budget and star hotels are within walking distance for convenience.

For the most accurate and up-to-date information, contact the temple directly or visit their official website.

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Special festivals or events held at the Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple

Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple in Varanasi celebrates several special festivals and events, primarily centered around Lord Ganesh. The key festivals include:

- ****Ganesh Chaturthi (Ganesha Prakatostav):**** Celebrated with great devotion and festivities, this festival usually occurs in August or September (Bhadrapada month). The

celebrations last about 7 to 10 days, with the main day being the fourth day of Bhadrapada. A fair is often organized during this time.

- ****Ganesh Jayanti (Maghotsav):**** This festival marks the birthday of Lord Ganesha and falls on the fourth day of the Hindu month of Magha (January-February). The celebrations typically span from the first to the eighth day of Magha, accompanied by fairs and special rituals.

- ****Rama-Madhav Punyostav:**** Observed on the eighth day of the Kartik month, this event commemorates the death anniversary of the temple's notable patron Madhavrao and his wife Ramabai, who performed Sati. A fair is also held during this occasion.

- ****Tuesdays:**** Considered auspicious for Ganesh worship, many devotees visit the temple on this day regularly.

During these festivals, the temple sees a significant influx of devotees, and special poojas, aartis, and fairs are organized, making the atmosphere highly vibrant and spiritual[1][2][3][4][5][6].

Note: The detailed festival information primarily corresponds to the Chintamani Ganesh Temple in Theur, Maharashtra, which is one of the Ashtavinayak temples. While the Varanasi temple shares the Ganesh worship focus, specific festival practices and scale may vary locally. However, Ganesh Chaturthi and Ganesh Jayanti are universally celebrated with enthusiasm at Ganesh temples across India, including Varanasi.

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Unique traditions or customs during Ganesh Chaturthi at the temple

During Ganesh Chaturthi at Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple, several unique traditions and customs are observed, reflecting both local and pan-Indian practices:

- **Pran Pratishtha:** The festival begins with the ceremonial installation of Lord Ganesh's idol and the invocation of his presence through Vedic chants and mantras, making the idol sacred for worship[6][7].
- **Daily Poojas and Aartis:** For the duration of the festival (typically 10 days), daily rituals include offering flowers, fruits, and especially modaks (a sweet considered Ganesh's favorite), along with the singing of hymns and performing aarti (waving of lamps)[1][7][8].
- **Decorations:** The temple and its surroundings are adorned with colorful rangoli, garlands, and vibrant decorations, creating a festive and spiritual atmosphere[7].
- **Distribution of Prasad:** Sweets, particularly modaks, are distributed to devotees as prasad after the rituals[1][7].
- **Community Gatherings:** The festival encourages communal worship, with families and devotees participating in group prayers, bhajans (devotional songs), and sharing festive meals[7].
- **Ganesh Visarjan:** On the final day, the idol is ceremoniously taken in a procession for immersion in a water body, symbolizing the cycle of creation and dissolution, and the removal of devotees' obstacles[1][6].

These customs foster a deep sense of devotion, community, and celebration throughout Ganesh Chaturthi at the temple.

Ref: <https://www.livehindustan.com/>

Shri Ganesha gave darshan riding on a palanquin

December 23, 2024

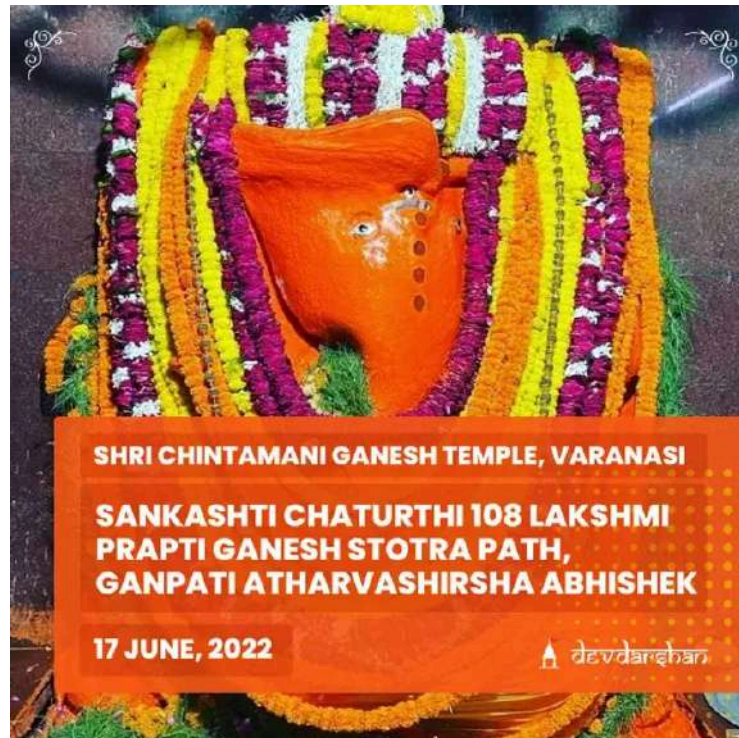
Varanasi News - A grand procession was taken out at the end of Shri Ram Katha at Chintamani Ganesh Temple in Varanasi. Devotees participated in carrying the palanquin of Lord Ganesha. The...

Varanasi, Chief Correspondent. A grand procession was taken out on Sunday on the concluding day of the ongoing Shri Ram Katha at Chintamani Ganesh Temple. A large number of devotees participated in the procession which was taken out with pomp and show.

The idol of Lord Ganesha was placed in the palanquin. There was competition among the devotees to lift the palanquin of Prathamesh. The procession started from Sonarpur and passed through different areas and ended at the temple. In the katha being narrated in the memory of the late Mahant Challa Krishna Shastri of the temple, Sudhirananda Maharaj gave a beautiful description of Ramrajya and said that everyone was happy in the kingdom of the Lord. No one remained sick. No one was handicapped. No one died an untimely death. In the end, the Mahant of the temple Challa Subbarao Shastri performed the aarti of the book.

Ref <https://devdham.com/>

Pooja



2,00,000+ devotees have joined the Pujas organized by Devdham

About Puja

For attaining Financial Benefits, Prosperity Good Fortune, Progress in Job and Business and for Removal of All Worries and Obstacles from Life, Participate in Lakshmi Prapti Ganesh Stotra 108 Path and Ganpati Atharvashirsha Abhishek on Sankashti Chaturthi, 17 June, 2022 organized by DevDham in Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple, Varanasi.



How it works



About Temple

Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple has a special significance in Kashi Khand. It is said that Shri Ganesha here even takes away the worries of Lord Vishwanath. The journey of Devotees who visit Varanasi remains incomplete without visiting the Chintamani Ganesh Temple. Hundreds of Devotees visit this Temple every day to seek the divine blessings of Lord Ganesha and to get their wishes fulfilled. Shri Ganesha resides in this Temple with his wives Riddhi-Siddhi and his sons Shubh-Labh. The idol of Shri Ganesha in this Temple is Swayambhu or self-manifested. This idol is also Dakshinmukhi and Ashtabhuja which makes this Temple unique and famous around the world.

Benefits of Pooja



Removal of Financial Issues

By participating in 108 Lakshmi Prapti Ganesh Stotra recitation in Chintamani Ganesh Temple, all the financial woes are removed. Shri Ganesha gives the Blessings of Lakshmi Prapti or Wealth & Prosperity to Devotees.



Wealth and Prosperity

Ganapati Atharvashirsha is a Vedic prayer dedicated to Shri Ganesha which helps in the Fulfillment of all Wishes. By participating in this Path, Devotees are believed to attain Progress, Wealth, and Prosperity in their lives.



Advancement in Job and Business

Lakshmi Prapti Ganesh Stotra Path helps in getting Promotion in Job and in Success in Business. Devotees who are not able to get a job should also participate in this Path since it helps to open up new pathways of work for such Devotees.



Freedom from All Sufferings

Worries such as Illness, Grief, Poverty, or Repeated Failure to complete any work are also solved by worshipping Chintamani Ganesha. Thus, the worship of Shri Ganesha in this Temple in Kashi removes all kinds of sufferings immediately.

4 Ways to participate & charges

Individual Ganesh Puja

₹551



Link for Recorded Video of Sankashti Chaturthi Puja from Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple, Varanasi



6 Devotee Name and Gotra will be chanted during the Puja Sankalp



You can choose to offer Vastra and Bhog to Lord Ganesha and the video of the Offerings will be shared with you.



100 grams of Panchmeva Prasad will be shipped to your home from Varanasi

Family Ganesh Puja

₹951



Link for Recorded Video of Sankashti Chaturthi Puja from Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple, Varanasi



6 Devotee Name and Gotra will be chanted during the Puja Sankalp



You can choose to offer Vastra and Bhog to Lord Ganesha and the video of the Offerings will be shared with you.



100 grams of Panchmeva Prasad will be shipped to your home from Varanasi

Family Ganesh Puja + Vastra

₹1551



Link for Recorded Video of Sankashti Chaturthi Puja from Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple, Varanasi



6 Devotee Name and Gotra will be chanted during the Puja Sankalp



Vastra will be offered to Lord Ganesha in your name and the recorded video for the same will be shared with you




You can choose to offer Bhog to Lord Ganesha the video of the Offerings will be shared with you



100 grams of Panchmeva Prasad will be shipped to your home from Varanasi

Family Ganesh Puja + Bhog

₹3151



- 👑 Link for Recorded Video of Sankashti Chaturthi Puja from Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple, Varanasi
- 👑 6 Devotee Name and Gotra will be chanted during the Puja Sankalp
- 👑 Bhog will be offered to Lord Ganesha in your name and the recorded video for the same will be shared with you
- 👑 You can choose to offer Vastra to Lord Ganesha and the video of the Offerings will be shared with you
- 👑 100 grams of Panchmeva Prasad will be shipped to your home from Varanasi

Frequently Asked Questions

DevDham is here to make your spiritual journey easier. Find quick answers to many of the questions that our devotees frequently have in mind. If you still have any more questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to get in touch with our support team.

Why DevDham and how can I trust DevDham?

Started by IIT graduates, DevDham is Devotional Platform for 5000+ Hindu Temples in the Indian Subcontinent. DevDham's long term vision is to provide a Digital Platform to Temples and Gurus for sharing the millennia-old teachings of Indian culture in the world and by doing so, projecting Bharat (India) as Vishwa Guru (Universal Leader) through its rich cultural and spiritual heritage.

DevDham facilitates online Daily Darshan, Pujas and Digital Donations for Devotees. DevDham has onboarded 150+ Temples across 16 states including but not limited to Shaktipeeth Chamunda Devi (Kangra), Shaktipeeth Maa Bajreshwari Devi (Kangra), Shaktipeeth Maa Baglamukhi Mandir (Kangra), Shaktipeeth Maa Vindya Vasini Mandir (Mirzapur), Shaktipeeth Maa Harsiddhi Mandir (Ujjain), Shaktipeeth Maa Gadhakalika Mandir (Ujjain), Shaktipeeth Tripura Sundari (Agartala), Bijasan Mata Mandir (Indore), Kalkaji

Mandir (Delhi), Hanuman Garhi (Ayodhya), Durgiana Mandir (Amritsar), Maa Mundeshwari Temple (Bihar), Jyotirlinga Ghushmeshwar Nath Temple (Pratapgarh), Jyotirlinga Mamleshwar (Omkareshwar), Kaal Bhairav Mandir (Ujjain), Chintaman Ganesh Mandir (Ujjain), Tapkeshwar Mandir (Dehradun), Pashupati Nath Mandir (Haridwar), Vrindavan Chandrodaya Temple, Badi Kali ji Mandir (Lucknow), Nagvasuki Mandir (Prayagraj), ISKCON (Vrindavan), ISKCON (Ghaziabad), ISKCON (Srinagar).

You can find more details about [DevDham](#) and our team.

Where can you watch the video of 108 Lakshmai Prapti Ganpati Stotra Path and Ganesh Atharvashirsha Abhishek on Chaturthi?

Devotees can watch the Live streaming or Recorded Video of 108 Lakshmi Prapti Ganpati Stotra Path and Ganesh Atharvashirsha Abhishek on 17 June 2022 in Shri Chintamani Ganesh Temple, Varanasi

Live Streaming or the Recorded Video of Puja will be available on [DevDham App](#) which you can download on your Android Smartphone. Live Streaming will also be available on [DevDham YouTube Channel](#) and [DevDham Facebook page](#). More details will be shared with you via whatsapp and email once you register for the Puja.

Your Name and Gotra will be chanted during the Puja Sankalp. Please, make a wish in your mind while watching the Puja from your home so that Shri Ganesha can bestow blessings on you and fulfill that wish.

What is the significance of Sankashti Chaturthi?

The Chaturthi that falls in the Krishna Paksha of every month is called Sankashti Chaturthi. Sankashti in Sanskrit means "remover of all obstacles", hence Sankashti Chaturthi as a festival holds great importance among the Devotees of Lord Ganesha. Worshipping Lord Ganesha on Sankashti Chaturthi with full devotion and rituals is considered to be of utmost fruitful and helps to remove all sorrows and sufferings from one's life. Sankashti Chaturthi is believed to be the most auspicious day to please Lord Ganesha. Seeking the divine blessings of Vighnaharta on this day helps in fulfillment of all kinds of wishes and elimination of all kinds of troubles and obstacles from a Devotees life.

What are Lakshmi Prapti Ganesh Stotra and Atharvashirsha Path?

Lord Ganesha is known to be the giver of Riddhi (prosperity) and Siddhi (spiritual power). Shri Lakshmi Ganesh Stotra is said to be most fruitful for attaining knowledge and wisdom. This Path opens the way for Financial Progress, Wealth and Prosperity in all four directions. Ganapati Atharvashirsha Path has special significance in Shri Ganesh Puja. It is a Vedic prayer, in which Lord Ganesha is considered as the supreme deity. There are ten hymns in it, in which Lord Ganesha is described as the fulfiller of all wishes. The spiritual significance of this Path has also been mentioned in the Puranas. Performing the Abhishek of Lord

Ganesha along with the Atharvashirsha Path helps to fulfill the wishes of the Devotees sooner.

What is the Significance of offering Vastra and Shringar to Lord Ganesha?

It is believed that Lord Ganesh removes all the obstacles and hindrances in the life of the devotees who worship him with full dedication. It is mentioned in the Hindu scriptures that the devotees should do Shringar of the idol of Lord Ganesha before the Puja. Lord Ganesha likes Yellow Clothes. Adorning the idol of Lord Ganesha with various decorative items such as flowers, Roli, Molly, Sandalwood, Shringar and Yellow Clothes has special significance since it's considered very auspicious.

Apart from this, keeping mango leaves near the idol of Lord Ganesha is symbolic of Wealth and Prosperity. Performing this small ritual assures a continuous flow of income in the house and the family members never face the shortage of anything in life. Decorating the idol of Shri Ganesha with white flowers helps to gain Profit and Success in Business. Therefore, the Devotees must offer Yellow Vastra and Bhog to Lord Ganesha on Chaturthi.

What is the significance of offering Bhog to Shri Ganesha?

Offering Bhog to the deities has special significance in Hinduism. Any puja remains incomplete without Bhog offering. Lord Ganesha likes Modak and Laddoos as bhog. Lord Ganesha gets extremely pleased with the devotees who offer Sweets, Paan, Laddoos and Doob grass to him and blesses them with good health, wealth, peace, happiness and prosperity. Naivedya is also offered to Lord Ganesha as Bhog. By the grace of Lord Ganesha, all the problems and sufferings of the devotees are removed.

What is the significance of Panch Meva Prasad and when will the Prasad be delivered to your home?

Panch Meva is a combination of five dry fruits. Panch Meva is related to 5 elements in the universe, namely Water, Fire, Earth, Sky and Wind. Panch Meva Prasad mainly includes almond, raisins, dry coconut, makhana and dry dates. In addition to spiritual benefits, the Prasad has health benefits for the devotees.

Prasad will be delivered via courier to your home address. Prasad will be delivered to your home after the Puja will be conducted by chanting your Name and Gotra in Kashi.

I don't know my Gotra, what is the solution?

In case, you don't know your Gotra, add your caste during the registration process for Puja. In case you don't know that, add your full name during the registration process. These details would be chanted by Pandit ji during Puja. Feel free to contact us at [+919015367944](tel:+919015367944)

How do I enrol my entire family for Puja?

DevDham has family packages available for Puja. Please contact us at [+919015367944](tel:+919015367944) via a call or WhatsApp for the family package.

Who can I contact for more information?

[+919015367944](tel:+919015367944)

Embark on Devotional Journey today. Download DevDham App and Watch Daily Darshan, Participate in LIVE Pujas, Order Prasad and Abhimantrit Divine Products from Temples and Tirth Kshetras of Bharat.

Ref: [google.com](https://www.google.com)

Photos

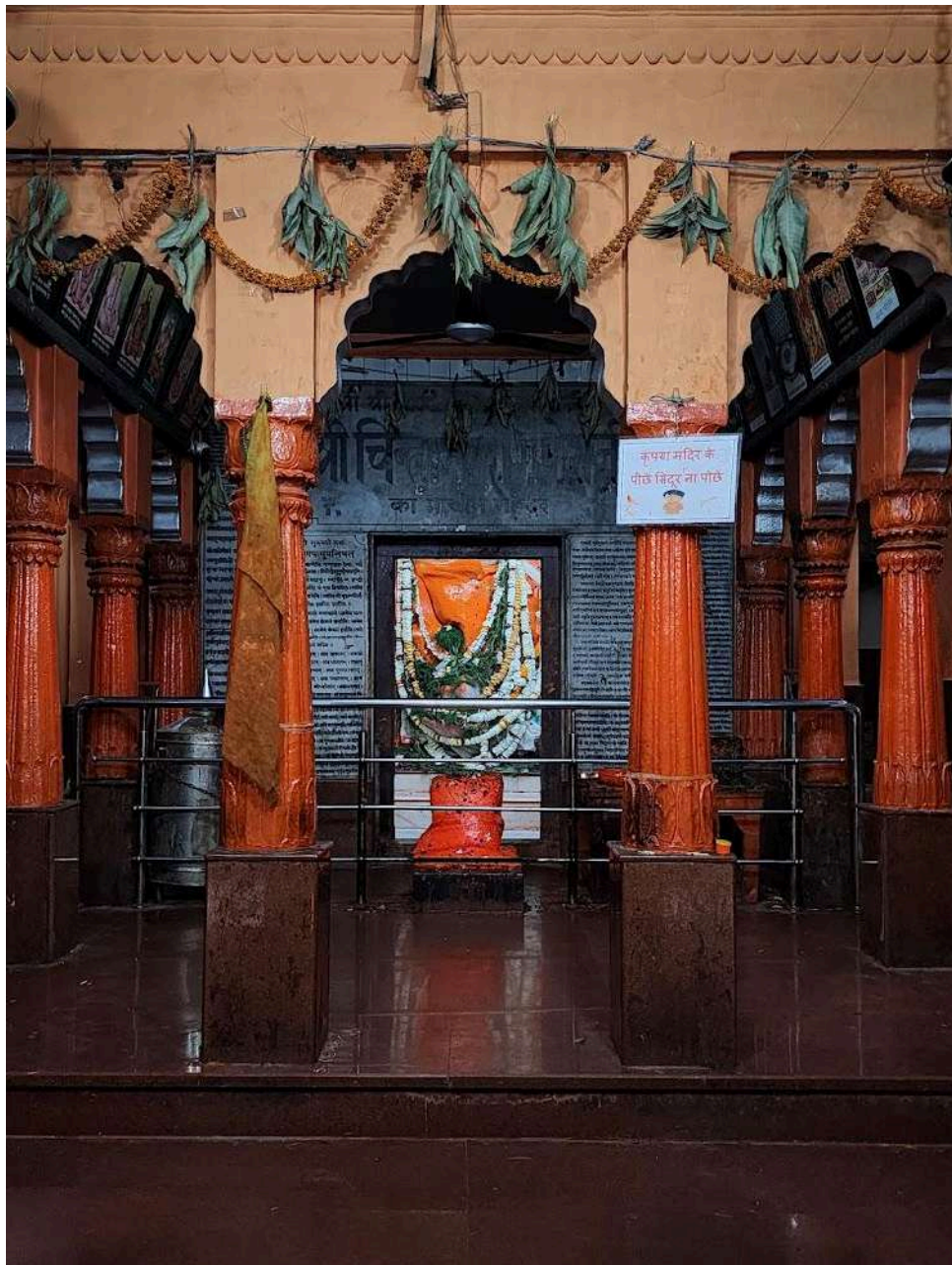


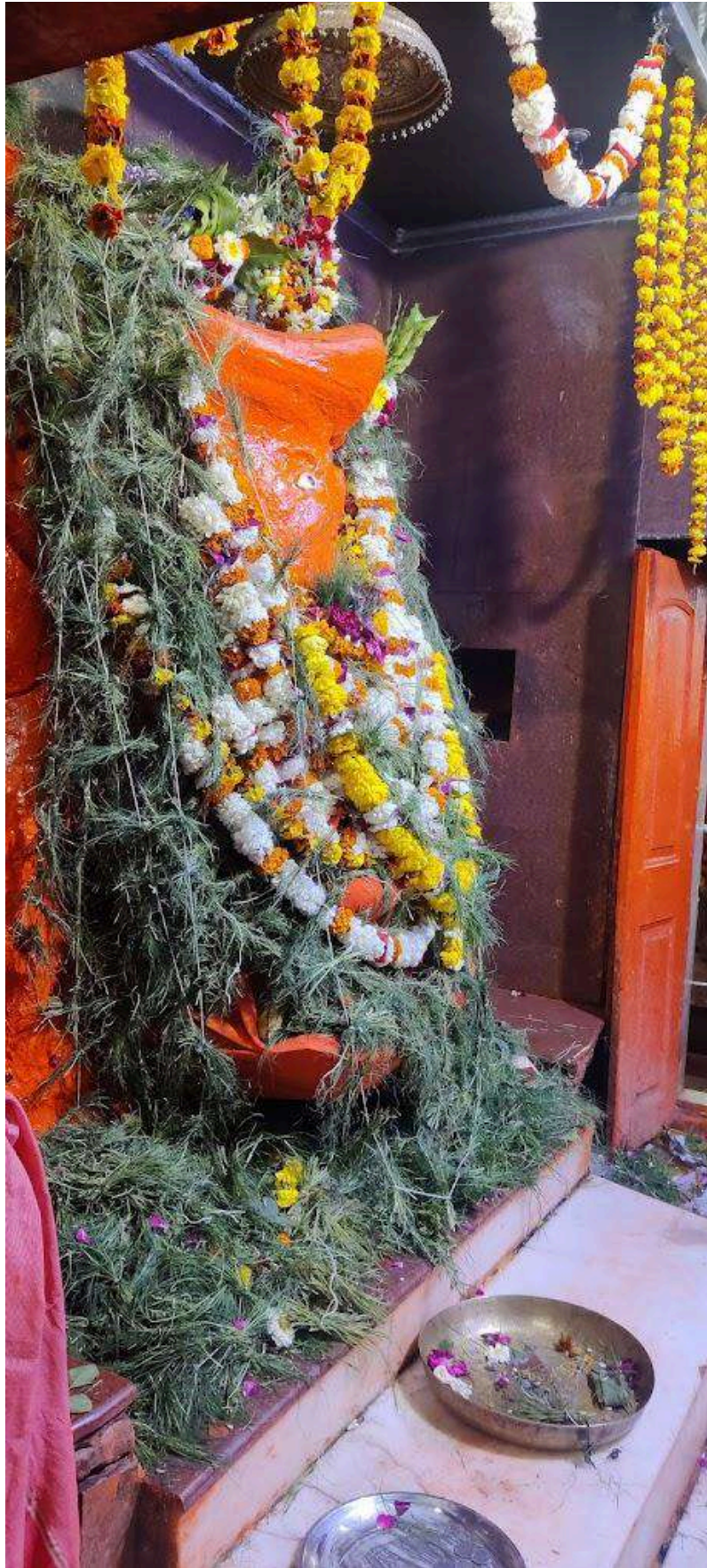




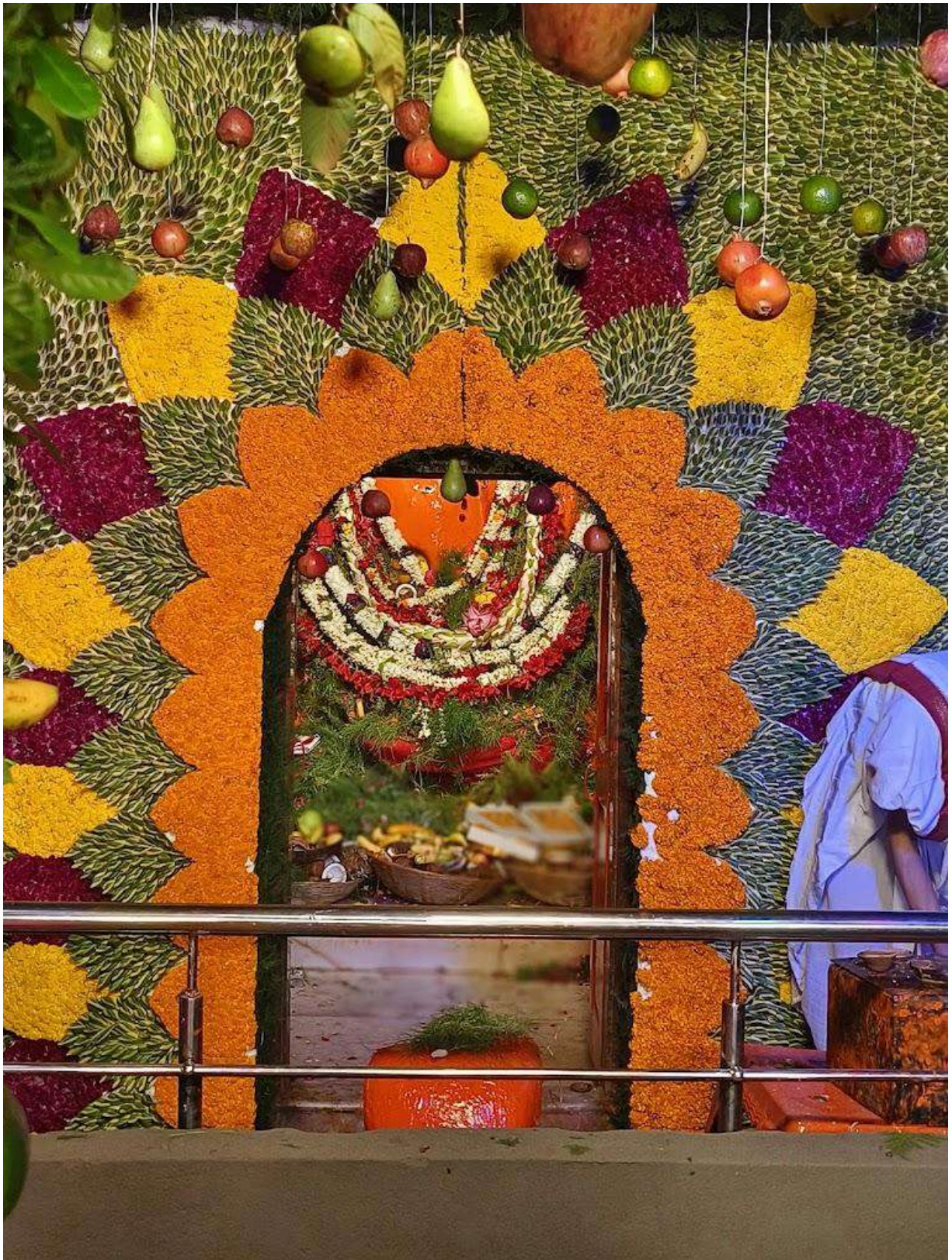




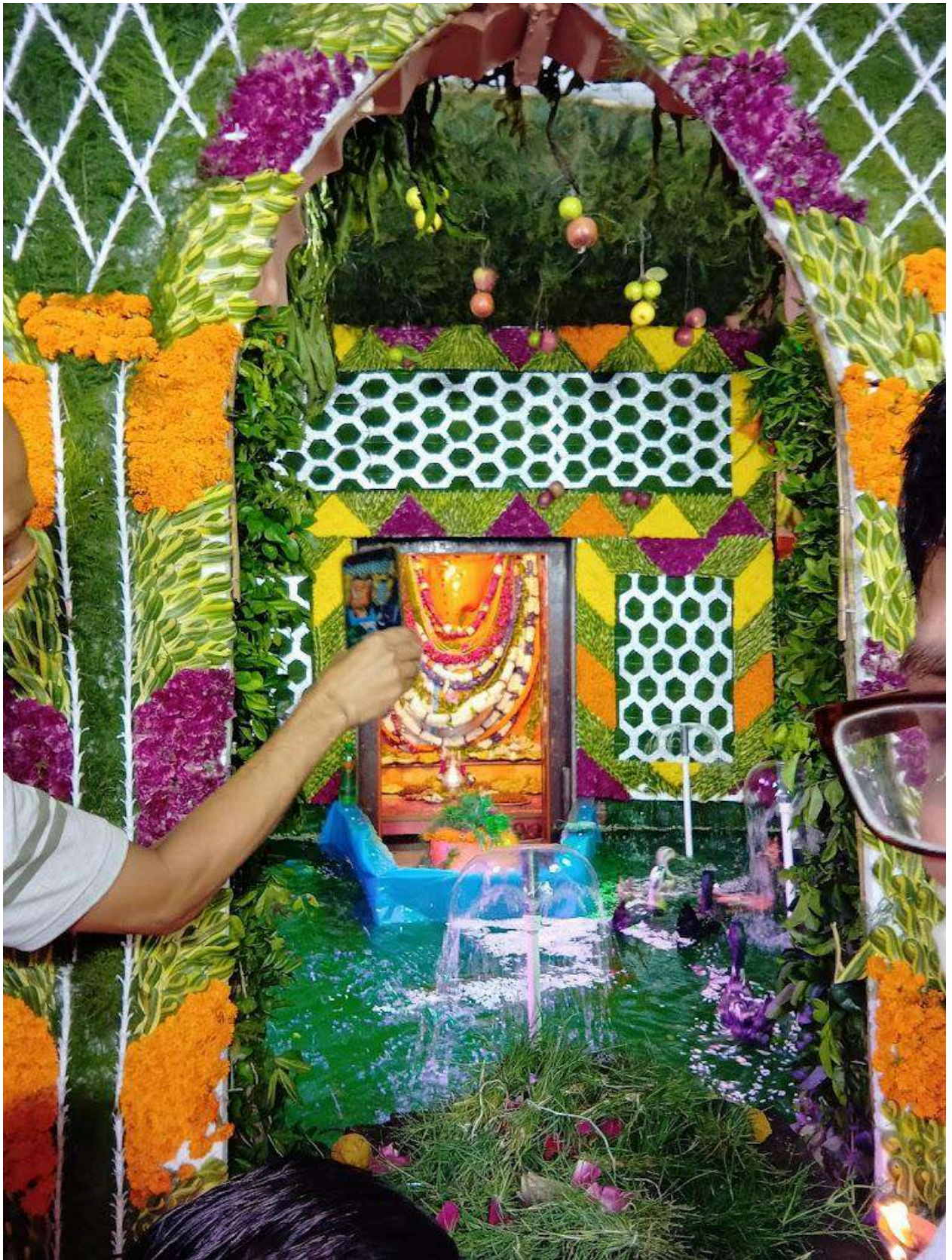








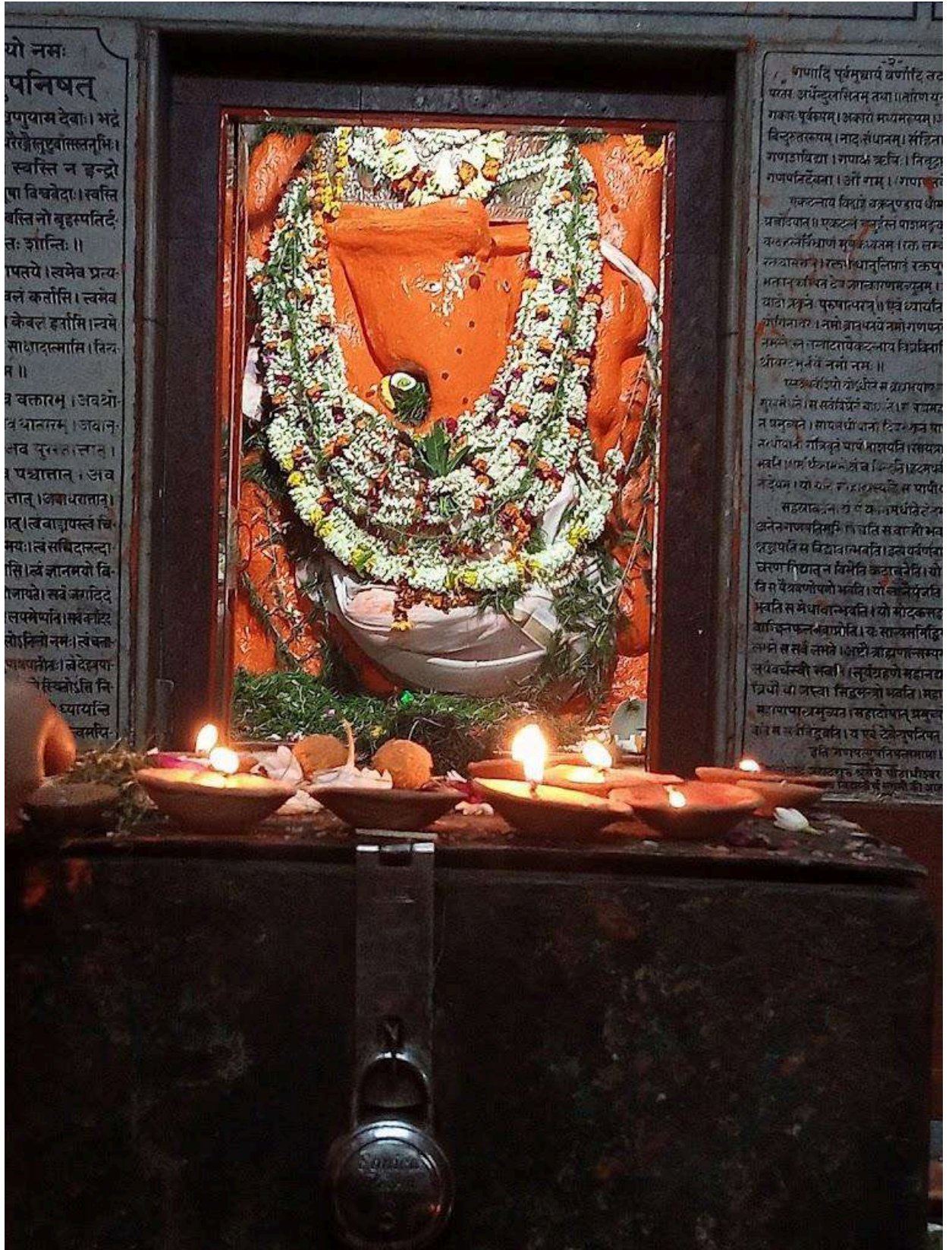


















Ref: FaceBook page: Chintamani Ganesh Temple Kashi

FB Videos

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YouTube Videos

Chintamani Ganesh Temple, Kasi (8 min): <https://youtu.be/QyfvihmQFyk>

Chintamani Ganesh Temple (1 min): <https://youtu.be/Tj4UNTnkWrA>

Chintamani Ganesh Mandir - vlog (2 min): https://youtu.be/Qy8ikn__vEA

Chintamani Ganesh Mandir, Kasi (0.3 min): <https://youtu.be/CQnKmrWoFO8>

Varanasi Chintamani Ganesh (2 min):

https://youtu.be/BjhBHtAEFTk?si=Z_d2P_KsMgCRsP3V

Chintamani and Gauri Kedareshwar temples, Varanasi (7 min):

https://youtu.be/9JooWM3rRvM?si=8YQJwubh_OgZ1cLN

Chintamani Ganesh (3 min): https://youtu.be/OcN6kQRTKH4?si=dJwY1BI1_Yorh0fF

Chintamani Ganesh (2 min): <https://youtu.be/EH2RwkyAdJM?si=rY42fl2EpR5mBifE>

Chintamani Ganesh Temple - Sugam yatra (4 min):

<https://youtu.be/kWa7dabvLwA?si=5UfAlgFkHKI5zS1s>

Chintamani Ganesh Shobha atra after Bhagavat Katha (2 min):

<https://youtu.be/HOlz9RFLz4s?si=c4JE2mTC7nXOGHBM>



ॐ स॒ह ना॑ ववतु । स॒ह नो॑ भुनक्तु । स॒ह वी॒र्यं॑ करवावहै । ते॒ज॒स्विना॒वधी॑तमस्तु मा वि॒द्विषा॒वहै॑ ॥ (3)

ॐ शान्तिः॒ शान्तिः॒ शान्तिः॑ ॥ (3)